



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008

No. 38

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, ever attentive to human need and openness, for some believers, You are distant and to be feared, only to be encountered in some mysterious happening or at the end of life. To other believers, Lord, You are ever present, sustaining all life, to be discovered just beneath the surface of each ordinary day. Perhaps it is Your love itself that arranges for us to experience at that precise moment what is the best and holiest thing that could ever happen to us.

Since the art of timing seems so important to us in the teaching of our young people, in the exercise of the free market, as well as in love and politics, perhaps it is best for us, too, to leave the timing of Your self-revelation also in Your hands.

Your wisdom in knowing us may best serve those who pray. For then, we will commend not only our concerns, our loved ones, our very selves, but our times to You, with the words: "In God we trust."

Even in Your timing, O God, we trust, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minute requests from each side of the aisle.

BISHOP PAUL S. MORTON

(Mr. JEFFERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JEFFERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a peerless religious leader in our country, Bishop Paul S. Morton, who has been on a mission for God as pastor of Greater St. Stephen Full Gospel Baptist Church for the past 33 years.

He took the helm of Greater St. Stephen when he was 24 years old, and at that time the church had nearly 1,000 members. Over the next 30 years, through dynamic leadership as a premiere pastor, teacher, and award-winning gospel singer, the membership of the church grew to over 20,000 members, the largest church in my State of Louisiana, and one of the largest in the Nation. He is now retiring as its pastor.

In 1994, God gave Bishop Morton the vision to found the Full Gospel Fellowship. The fellowship now has over 1,500 churches nationally and internationally, including churches in Western Europe, Western and Southern Africa, India, Japan and the Caribbean.

Bishop Morton will continue to serve as International Presiding Bishop of the Full Gospel Fellowship. We thank God for his service to our community, to our Nation, to the international community, and to almighty God. We wish him God's choicest blessings as he repositions himself for greater service.

TAYLORSVILLE VFW AUXILIARY AND TAYLOR KING SUPPORT DEPLOYED TROOPS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a group of true American patriots.

This past Christmas, a group of citizens in Taylorsville, North Carolina worked hard to communicate to our men and women stationed overseas that they are in our prayers and on our mind.

A civic-minded band of women in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary from the rural community of Taylorsville worked together to rally their community to send care packages to local Armed Forces members stationed abroad during Christmas. The sacrifice of military service during Christmas is often overlooked during a time when many of our brave military men and women are stationed abroad, making this effort all the more meaningful to the soldiers they aided.

Thanks to the selfless work of Margaret Milsap, Mary Lasky and Jeanette Stevenson, which was spearheaded by Mary Matthews, more than 80 care packages were sent to 30 deployed soldiers during this past Christmas. Taylor King Furniture, a Taylorsville business, generously footed the entire bill for the mailing of the 80-plus packages.

Together, the VFW Auxiliary and Taylor King provided a slice of home to 30 soldiers serving in foreign countries during Christmas. I hope their example of citizenship and patriotism during uncertain times serves to inspire many more Americans to show their support for our troops who fight for freedom every day.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1343

DR. JACK SMITH, A GREAT AMERICAN

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, I wanted to take a moment to recognize a great American, a constituent of mine from Bayonne, New Jersey, Dr. Jack Smith.

After seeing the second plane hit the World Trade Center on 9/11, Dr. Smith immediately left his Bayonne practice and went to help treat victims in Lower Manhattan. He said he felt the world had changed that day, and he decided to enlist in the Army Medical Reserve at the age of 49 years old.

Dr. Smith has since served two tours overseas. He was sent on his first tour to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan where he served in the 325th Combat Support Hospital Unit. His second tour was with the First Squadron of the 167th RSTA Cavalry Unit in Iraq. There he worked at the battalion aid station, the Air Force Theatre Hospital, and gave medical support for two intelligence gathering missions outside the wire.

When asked about managing his service, family, and practice, Dr. Smith says he's been blessed. I believe we are blessed to have individuals like Dr. Smith serving our country. His courage and service are an example to us all, and I want to thank him and his family for his service.

NEW EMPLOYEE VERIFICATION ACT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last Thursday, I introduced the New Employee Verification Act; it's H.R. 5515. This proposal will achieve three important objectives: one, ensure a legal workforce; two, safeguard workers identity; and three, protect Social Security.

Effective work site enforcement is essential to securing our borders. Reforming work site enforcement will affect millions of workers, and it must be done immediately and done right. Having an effective safeguard in place will allow us to have a rational debate about the number of workers we need to legally enter our Nation.

My bill has a mandatory component that builds off of what we've learned from current E-Verify. I also have a component that helps prevent identity theft through the creation of a voluntary system to authenticate and safeguard workers' identities.

This bill has strong support in the employer community. I look forward to working with both sides of the aisle to see this bill signed into law.

IN HONOR OF MIKE DALY

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true humanitarian from my congressional district, Mike Daly. In 2007, Mike retired as principal of the Black Hawk Area Education Center in East Moline, Illinois, ending a remarkable 35-year career in special education and public service.

Throughout his career, Mike demonstrated tremendous passion and dedication. He successfully established partnerships between local businesses, service organizations, and the special needs community to provide opportunities for his students, such as competing in the Special Olympics, and always believing that communities should not have boundaries.

Mike's tireless efforts have touched the lives of thousands of people and their families, and I am proud to have the opportunity to represent him.

Mike, thank you for your work, your commitment to others, and your efforts to make your community a better place for everyone.

I wish you the best in your retirement, and may you continue to find fulfillment in helping others.

□ 1015

PENTAGON TO KEEP 140,000 TROOPS IN IRAQ—STATUS QUO CONTINUES DESPITE NO POLITICAL PROGRESS

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, in case anyone was still under the impression that the President was serious about changing the dynamics on the ground in Iraq, they should put all those hopes aside. If the administration gets its way, this President will leave 8,000 more troops in Iraq when he leaves office than were there before the surge last year.

In 2006, before the President's troop escalation plan, there were 132,000 American troops in Iraq. This summer after five combat brigades come home, there still will be 140,000 troops on the ground.

There is not going to be a change. Last year the President moved ahead with this troop escalation plan, promising that it would give the Iraq Government the stability to make some of the tough political decisions. As the troop escalation comes to an end, the Iraq Government has failed to bring about any real political progress, and repeated deployments are severely straining our military readiness.

Madam Speaker, the status quo is not working. We will continue to fight to end this war and head our country in a new direction.

SUCCESS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last weekend I was honored to travel with a delegation to visit our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. I am grateful to report that I saw significant success while walking the market district of Haditha in Anbar province, Iraq, to driving across Asadabad, Afghanistan, to see a new bridge under construction.

Violence in Iraq has declined by over 60 percent since the beginning of the surge. In Afghanistan I appreciate the success of the 218th Brigade of the South Carolina Army National Guard, led by Brigadier General Bob Livingston, to train Afghani forces to secure their own homeland. The best way to protect American families at home is to stop terrorists overseas.

There are many challenges we face both in Iraq and Afghanistan, but the brave men and women fighting on the front lines have done everything we have asked of them. So let's do what they have asked of us. Let them complete the mission, protecting American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN NEWMAN, WINNER OF THE 2008 DAYTONA 500

(Mr. DONNELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the success and triumph of Ryan Newman, winner of the 2008 Daytona 500. Born and raised in South Bend, Indiana, Ryan serves as a shining example to young men and women who aspire to achieve great success after long hours of work and sacrifice.

Ryan's younger years were spent learning about cars at the elbow of his dad and developing the team spirit he's created to this day. He was an honors graduate of LaSalle High School and also a graduate of Purdue University.

Supported by his family, his community, nationwide fans, and a great team, Ryan won the 50th running of the Daytona 500, the Super Bowl of NASCAR. In a race with 16 different leaders and 42 lead changes, Ryan prevailed because of persistence and skill.

It is my pleasure to pay tribute to the many years of hard work and dedication that have paid off for Ryan Newman, a model Hoosier. The Second District is proud of his success and of one of its hardest-working sons, a man who serves as a role model for youth throughout the country.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2857, GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION ACT

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1015 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1015

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2857) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to reconsider with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 2857 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART). All time yielded during

consideration of this rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1015.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Resolution 1015 provides for consideration of House Resolution 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education, or GIVE, Act under a structured rule. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate controlled by the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI. The rule makes in order the Education and Labor Committee-reported substitute as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

The rule makes in order 11 amendments, which are listed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. Each amendment is debatable for 10 minutes. The rule also provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of a vital piece of legislation, legislation that directly affects all of our communities and the lives of millions of Americans; legislation that strengthens our communities, helps educate our future generations, teaches our youth to prepare for and respond to unthinkable tragedies, and fosters the growth of respect and compassion throughout our entire society.

The Corporation for National Community Service estimates that in 2006 the national service participants provided the Nation with nearly \$4 billion worth of service projects. The GIVE Act reauthorizes our country's investment in community service and volunteerism.

As co-chair of the National Service Caucus, it is a pleasure to call attention to the tremendous work of those involved at every level and in every program of the corporation.

Madam Speaker, service and volunteerism are the bedrock of our emergency preparedness and national security. In times of strife, the American people have always shown a spirit of service and ingenuity. Investing in service and volunteer programs prepares us to handle any crisis. We must focus on building our national capacity, and harnessing the enterprising spirit of the American people is a good way to do so. In the wake of a catastrophe, a first responder is likely to be a civilian. A neighbor is likely to be the first one to provide assistance. By building up our service and volunteer programs, we are taking proactive steps to bolster our national security

and capability to weather a disaster now and in the years to come.

We saw firsthand the importance of having trained volunteers in the wake of the 2005 hurricanes. These forever changed thousands of lives and communities in the gulf coast. We watched as men and women mourned their loved ones and remembered the lives they once had. We also witnessed an outpouring of support and compassion from individuals who were touched by this immense tragedy.

Following the devastation in the gulf coast, more than 92,000 national service volunteers contributed over 3.5 million hours of service to the recovery effort. They repaired neighborhoods. They rebuilt lives. Our national service participants have also applied their expertise towards training local community volunteers, further expanding the network of effective workers to 260,000 people.

The assistance from volunteers following the devastating storms represents only one example of the many accomplishments that our service volunteers achieve every single day. Through programs such as AmeriCorps State and National, Volunteers in Service to America, and National Civilian Community Corps, AmeriCorps volunteers address critical needs in our communities.

When I am home in Sacramento, I am reminded by my constituents of the great work done by AmeriCorps NCCC volunteers. AmeriCorps NCCC members are disaster trained and available for immediate deployment in the event of a natural disaster anywhere within the United States, as they were to the gulf coast. In fact, NCCC teams have responded to every national disaster since the program was established.

Over \$26 million worth of hurricane recovery resources have come from AmeriCorps NCCC alone, which is more than we spent on the entire program nationwide. This is quite a return on our investment.

The GIVE Act will strengthen the emergency preparedness and response training of our country's NCCC participants. The changes will also help the program continue to grow. Recently, the corporation added two new campuses, one in Iowa and one in Mississippi.

The GIVE Act recognizes the work of every volunteer in this country. It seeks to reach out to more people to greatly expand the number of volunteers across this country. Our bill will expand AmeriCorps membership from 75,000 to 100,000 by 2012. The bill seeks to tap the growing pool of baby boomers reaching retirement that wish to continue serving their country by lowering the age of participation in Senior Corps to 55 from 60 years old. Equally important is that the bill harnesses the energy of future generations in addition to the baby boomers.

Engaging our youth early on is vitally important to the safety of our communities and the lives of our children. The Summer of Service program

will ensure that students making the transition from middle to high school have an opportunity to participate in service programs. By increasing the education award, the bill allows young service participants to apply the skills that they learn in volunteerism to a successful education. The benefits of service will continue to accrue to volunteers even after they complete their service.

Madam Speaker, as a result of the great work of the AmeriCorps members, extraordinary things are happening all over America. The corporation supports such important nonprofit organizations as Habitat for Humanity, City Year, and Red Cross.

National service participants have built homes, healed wounds, and taught elementary school kids. These volunteers are part of the backbone of our country. With very little funding, service participants leverage millions of dollars and perform crucial work in classrooms, national parks, and areas of our Nation hit by disaster.

As a result, I hope my colleagues will support the rule and the underlying legislation. The spirit of service that is so important to all of our communities is one that should be encouraged and supported.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I would like to thank my friend, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), for the time and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In a world often plagued by selfishness, those who commit themselves to the service of others through volunteerism really serve as a beacon of compassion and hope for all.

□ 1030

Community service is one of the most gratifying, rewarding, fulfilling ways people can give back to their communities. Community service has always been a vital pillar of our society. Volunteers all over the Nation dedicate millions of hours to their contemporaries, all in the hope of making people's lives better. Through their selfless work and tireless effort, volunteers help improve the lives of millions of Americans.

In 1993, Congress, with my support, passed legislation creating AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service to administer and coordinate Federal community service programs. Since then, almost 500,000 Americans have served with thousands of nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and faith-based organizations nationwide.

These citizens tutor and mentor children, they coordinate after-school programs, they build homes for the needy, they conduct neighborhood patrols, restore the environment, respond to disasters, build nonprofit capacity, recruit and manage volunteers. They do, oftentimes, exemplary work.

The underlying legislation, Madam Speaker, H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, known as the GIVE Act, will reauthorize the national service programs administered by the Cooperation for National Community Service. This reauthorization will help increase the number of volunteers in AmeriCorps to over 100,000 by 2012. It will also create service opportunities for middle school and high school students through the Summer of Service program.

The legislation emphasizes the critical role of service in meeting the national priorities of emergency and disaster preparedness. I do believe it will help improve program integrity.

I am pleased that the committee, the Committee on Education and Labor, worked in a bipartisan manner to reauthorize this program and to include provisions that will make these programs more effective and efficient, responding to State and local needs, and performance-oriented. It goes to show, Madam Speaker, that when we are willing to work together and negotiate, we can bring forth good pieces of legislation with bipartisan support.

Now, I know the majority is trumpeting this rule with which we bring this underlying legislation to the floor because it will allow Members to debate all the amendments to the Rules Committee. But I remind my colleagues, Madam Speaker, the majority does this only when the underlying legislation is noncontroversial, even though the majority promised to be the most open Congress in history. If the majority is so proud of this rule, it should allow open rules on controversial bills as well.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I urge Americans everywhere, regardless of whether they take part in a AmeriCorps, to volunteer and give back to their communities. The rewards are extraordinary to both the volunteer and to the community. As Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MATSUI. I would like to inquire of the gentleman from Florida if he has any remaining speakers.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. We have no other speakers. I am ready to make my final remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Although the reauthorization of AmeriCorps certainly is an important matter and one that deserves our attention, I must express my disappointment that the majority decided to take up this legislation before we finish our work on bipartisan legislation to protect Americans from international terrorism.

On February 14, the majority decided to leave Washington to take a Presi-

dent's Day recess and allowed the Protect America Act to expire 2 days later, rendering U.S. intelligence officials unable to begin new terrorist surveillance without cumbersome bureaucratic hurdles. Because of the inaction of the majority, the United States is more vulnerable to terrorist attack.

This didn't have to happen, Madam Speaker. Earlier last month, the Senate passed, by a bipartisan vote, really an extraordinary vote of 68-29, a bill updating the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, FISA, a bill that the chairman, Democratic chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee said, and I quote, "is the right way to go in terms of the security of the Nation."

We could have easily considered that legislation, but the majority in the House instead decided to head home. The House should vote on the Senate measure, and the House should vote on the Senate measure now.

Madam Speaker, we must always try to stay one step ahead of those who wish to harm Americans. Now is not the time to in any way tie the hands of our intelligence community. The modernization of the foreign intelligence surveillance is a critical national security priority.

I am pleased that several of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle also agree. On January 28, 21 members of the Blue Dog Coalition, Democrats, sent a letter to the distinguished Speaker in support of the Senate Rockefeller-Bond FISA legislation. The letter states, and I quote, "The Rockefeller-Bond FISA legislation contains satisfactory language addressing all these issues, and we fully support that measure, should it reach the House floor without substantial change. We believe these components will ensure a strong national security apparatus that can thwart terrorism across the globe and save American lives here in our country."

Today, I will give all Members of the House an opportunity to vote on the bipartisan long-term modernization of FISA. I call on all my colleagues, including the members of the Blue Dog Coalition that signed the letter to the distinguished Speaker, to join with me in defeating the previous question so that we can immediately move to concur in the Senate amendment and send the bill to the President to be signed into law.

I remind my colleagues that defeating the previous question will not prohibit consideration of the underlying legislation being brought to the floor today, the GIVE Act, but would merely require that we first take a vote on FISA modernization.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have the text of the amendment and extraneous material inserted into the RECORD prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the previous question and in favor of a bipartisan long-term solution that helps protect American lives from international terrorism.

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, first, I would like to say that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act continues to give the intelligence community the tools it needs to monitor terrorists. The government always has the option of tapping targets immediately and returning to the FISA Court within 72 hours to obtain an order.

My constituents and those of other Members of Congress view the protection of civil liberties as one of their top priorities. The American people want us to do our representational duty to uphold the Constitution and deliberate on this issue. We are working hard to ensure that our national security needs are met as our constitutional rights are protected.

Now we are working to support national service in our country, which helps our communities respond to disasters and also encourages our youth to engage in civic participation. Last year, I had the pleasure of meeting with Tatiana, a strong and determined young woman from Sacramento, my hometown, who received an award for CorpsMember of the Year. When Tatiana was just 15, her mother was incarcerated, and later, she was expelled from high school. Meeting with her and hearing her story of how she used the local Conservation Corps to turn her life around was truly inspiring.

This reauthorization takes programs and infrastructure that have touched so many lives, such as Tatiana, and builds off its foundation to greatly increase the quality and quantity and improve national service. National service is a proven return on our investment. With this bill, we will broaden those involved in service, and in doing so, foster the values of civic engagement and duty that can change a life and also draw upon the lessons of guidance and wisdom of our seniors that only a lifetime of experience can provide.

This bipartisan legislation makes excellent improvements to an already successful Federal agency. It improves access and support for organizations and grant applicants, and most importantly, reassures our valued volunteers that Congress supports them and their work. I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1015 OFFERED BY MR. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART OF FLORIDA

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. "That upon adoption of this resolution, before consideration of any order of business other than one motion that the House adjourn, the bill (H.R. 3773) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing

certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes, with Senate amendment thereto, shall be considered to have been taken from the Speaker's table. A motion that the House concur in the Senate amendment shall be considered as pending in the House without intervention of any point of order. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion."

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the Floor Procedures Manual published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment

or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time of any electronic vote on the question of adoption.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 193, answered "present" 1, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 103]

YEAS—217

Abercrombie	Delahunt	Kind
Ackerman	DeLauro	Klein (FL)
Allen	Dicks	Kucinich
Altmire	Dingell	Langevin
Andrews	Doggett	Larsen (WA)
Arcuri	Doyle	Larson (CT)
Baca	Edwards	Lee
Baird	Ellison	Levin
Baldwin	Ellsworth	Lewis (GA)
Becerra	Emanuel	Lipinski
Berkley	Engel	Loeb sack
Berman	Eshoo	Lofgren, Zoe
Berry	Etheridge	Lowey
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Lynch
Bishop (NY)	Filner	Mahoney (FL)
Blumenauer	Frank (MA)	Maloney (NY)
Boren	Giffords	Markey
Boswell	Gillibrand	Marshall
Boucher	Gordon	Matsui
Boyd (FL)	Green, Al	McCarthy (NY)
Boyd (KS)	Green, Gene	McCollum (MN)
Brady (PA)	Grijalva	McDermott
Braley (IA)	Gutierrez	McGovern
Brown, Corrine	Hall (NY)	McIntyre
Butterfield	Hare	McNerney
Capps	Harman	McNulty
Capuano	Hastings (FL)	Meek (FL)
Cardoza	Herseth Sandlin	Meeks (NY)
Carnahan	Higgins	Melancon
Carney	Hill	Michaud
Castor	Hinchey	Miller (NC)
Chandler	Hinojosa	Miller, George
Clarke	Hirono	Mitchell
Clay	Hodes	Mollohan
Cleaver	Holden	Moore (KS)
Clyburn	Holt	Moore (WI)
Cohen	Honda	Moran (VA)
Conyers	Hooley	Murphy (CT)
Cooper	Hoyer	Murphy, Patrick
Costa	Inslee	Murtha
Costello	Israel	Nadler
Courtney	Jackson (IL)	Napolitano
Cramer	Jackson-Lee	Neal (MA)
Crowley	(TX)	Oberstar
Cuellar	Jefferson	Obey
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Oliver
Davis (AL)	Jones (OH)	Ortiz
Davis (CA)	Kagen	Pallone
Davis (IL)	Kanjorski	Pascarell
Davis, Lincoln	Kaptur	Pastor
DeFazio	Kildee	Payne
DeGette	Kilpatrick	Perlmutter

Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)

NAYS—193

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Donnelly
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Johnson (IL)

NOT VOTING—17

Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Cubin
Fattah
Gonzalez

Johnson, E. B.
Keller
Kennedy
McCrery
Murphy, Tim

Towns
Tsongas
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Wu
Yarmuth

Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Young (FL)

Renzi
Reynolds

Rush
Woolsey

□ 1106

Messrs. CARTER and PICKERING changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 222, noes 190, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 104]

AYES—222

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd (FL)
Boyd (KS)
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Castor
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Cohen
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel

Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Filner
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Gillibrand
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hereth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern

McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Ginny
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Space
McCollum (MN)
Stark
Stupak

Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas

Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

NOES—190

Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave

NOT VOTING—16

Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Cubin
Fattah
Gonzalez
Johnson, E. B.

Keller
Kennedy
McCrery
Poe
Rangel
Renzi

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that there is 1 minute remaining in this vote.

□ 1113

Mr. MARCHANT changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 2857, into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2857.

□ 1114

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2857) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, with Mrs. TAUSCHER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, the first reauthorization of national and community service laws and programs since 1993. I am pleased that today this House is taking up this important measure that will take volunteerism and service into the 21st century.

It was in March of 1961 that President John F. Kennedy first challenged a generations of Americans to ask "not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." By establishing the Peace Corps and the Volunteers in Service to America programs, he inspired millions of Americans to make a difference here at home and around the globe. He created a powerful legacy of hope and service that connects us as Americans.

Almost 50 years later, we should be very proud that volunteering in America is at a 30-year high. Through AmeriCorps and other service programs, new generations of Americans have become inspired to build stronger, more vibrant communities, help chil-

dren succeed in schools, and rebuild cities in times of disaster.

In fact, in 2006, more than 61 million Americans gave back to their communities through service. That same year, volunteers in my home State of California contributed more than 858 million hours of service to our State economy, a value of more than \$17 billion. In the 15 years since AmeriCorps was enacted into law, more than 500,000 Americans of all ages and backgrounds have participated in this program.

Our current and future generations of volunteers deserve our renewed support for their programs, just as President Kennedy first provided decades ago. The GIVE Act, this legislation, recognizes this growing service movement that is taking place across the Nation. It builds upon the successful work being done in communities across by members of AmeriCorps, VISTA, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America.

AmeriCorps has become a successful model for public-private partnerships. Last year, the AmeriCorps program leveraged more than \$200 million in matching funds, mobilized more than 1.4 million volunteers, and worked with 2,000 small and large faith-based and community-based organizations across the country.

The GIVE Act would strengthen the AmeriCorps service model by putting us on the path to increasing the number of AmeriCorps members from 75,000 to 100,000 by 2012 with a focus of engaging low-income, disadvantaged, and at-risk youth.

With soaring tuition prices making it more difficult for many students to get a college degree, the GIVE Act would help AmeriCorps members pay for college by increasing the scholarship that they earn in exchange for their service from \$4,725 to \$5,255 by 2012.

This bill would also introduce young people to community service by creating a new Summer of Service initiative that will offer middle school and high school students the opportunity to spend the summer working to improve their communities while earning a \$500 education award that can be used for college or for college preparation.

Alumni of these programs remain valuable resources to our communities. More than 72 percent of AmeriCorps members continue to volunteer in their communities after their term of service ends. After Hurricane Katrina devastated gulf coast communities, AmeriCorps alumni played a key role in relief, recovery, and rebuilding efforts.

To help tap into these resources in times of emergency, this bill would expand the number of volunteers ready to respond by creating an Alumni Reserve Corps of service alumni with previous experience serving during disasters.

Volunteering also provides critical opportunities for older Americans to make a difference in their communities. Each year, nearly half a million older Americans participate in the

Senior Corps programs, mentoring children of prisoners, providing independent living services to seniors, assisting victims of natural disasters, and mobilizing other volunteers.

The GIVE Act would expand the purpose of Senior Corps programs by adding an emphasis on recruiting retired STEM, health care, law enforcement and military professionals to help with education, after-school, public safety and technology needs.

In addition, it would phase in the competition for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs, an important part of the Senior Corps by 2013, allowing new grantees and volunteers to join the service movement and encouraging innovation and evolution among high-performing programs. I also want to thank the RSVP program for working with us to ensure a responsible transition.

I want to thank Members on both sides of the aisle, in particular Representatives MCCARTHY, McKEON and PLATTS, for their leadership, as well as the Service Caucus for their support.

I also want to thank our committee staff for their hard work on this bill, including Alex Ceja, Denise Forte, Stephanie Moore, Deborah Koolbeck with Mrs. MCCARTHY, Brad Thomas with Mr. McKEON, and Becky Wolfkiel with Mr. PLATTS.

Let me also thank Voices of Services and its member organizations, who were invaluable in helping us develop this legislation.

It is clear that service has played an important role in this country's history and will continue to help us meet the challenges and needs of our communities. It is clear that the interest in volunteering reaches across all generations: our young people, retiring baby boomers, and older Americans. The GIVE Act reflects their commitment, and our commitment, to building a stronger country through service. I urge my colleagues to join us in this effort by supporting this legislation.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McKEON. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of the GIVE Act.

I would like to begin by thanking Chairman MILLER, as well as the Chair and the ranking member of the subcommittee, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York and Mr. PLATTS from Pennsylvania, for their efforts to develop a solid, bipartisan bill that will strengthen our national service programs. I would also like to recognize Brad Thomas from my staff for his hard work on this bill.

Like many of my colleagues, particularly on this side of the aisle, I historically have had concerns about AmeriCorps and the other programs within the Corporation for National and Community Service. Particularly during the 1990s, Federal management of these programs was at best dismal.

For years, I joined many of my colleagues, led by Mr. HOEKSTRA, in seeking to establish performance measures to ensure that these national service programs are in fact meeting their goals.

Under the Bush administration, it has become clear that these programs are being held more accountable and they have become more efficient as a result. For example, the corporation received its seventh consecutive clean audit during the fiscal year 2006. Likewise, the corporation's leadership has instituted significant improvements in efficiency and quality, including streamlining the grants and application reporting processes, consolidating five field service centers into one, and automating education award payments, time and attendance, and travel.

In short, the recent management of this program has far surpassed its record of low accountability under the previous administration; and for that reason in particular, it deserves our continued support.

Moreover, this program brings together our neighbors to serve one another and thus benefit our Nation. Although there are clear opportunities to strengthen and improve these programs, the simple fact is that the corporation plays a key and increasingly effective role in, as President Bush would say, "rallying the armies of compassion."

Later today I plan to offer an amendment that will strengthen this already good bill. The purpose of my amendment is to acknowledge the patriotism, commitment, and sacrifice made by members of the military and their families. In return for their service to our Nation, I believe the least we can do is ensure our national service programs are able to benefit veterans and military families.

Madam Chairman, this bill is based on sound principles for reform outlined by the administration and developed in conjunction with the corporation. It includes a long overdue emphasis on accountability with its inclusion of performance measures and increased competition. And on the whole, I find the bill to be a balanced one that is worthy of our support.

Madam Chairman, this bill represents a bipartisan effort to come together on a program that is good for the citizens of this Nation.

Unfortunately, our Democrat colleagues have been unwilling to work in the same bipartisan fashion on our Nation's security interests. It has been 18 days since the Protect America Act expired, nearly 3 weeks that the majority has conspicuously refused to bring the bipartisan Senate Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act modernization bill to a vote. And yesterday we got a glimpse of the reason why. An anonymous Member argued that delaying action on this critical security measure made for good politics. Madam Chairman, it is unfathomable that our Nation's secu-

rity may be put at risk in the name of political gamesmanship. I strongly urge the majority to bring FISA modernization for a vote.

Madam Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS), and I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Pennsylvania will control the time.

Mr. PLATTS. I reserve my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is a great day for national service. It has been 15 years since we reauthorized our national service laws. As chairwoman of the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee, I am pleased to speak in support of H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, the GIVE Act.

I am also pleased to say that the administration and the service community support the GIVE Act. I would like to thank Chairman MILLER for his continued strong support and work on this reauthorization. I would also like to extend my thanks to the ranking member of our committee, Mr. MCKEON, for his hard work.

Finally, I would like to thank my good friend and ranking member of the subcommittee, Mr. PLATTS, for his work on this reauthorization.

Later I will speak on my manager's amendment, which is also a bipartisan effort. National service has a distinguished and strong history in our Nation. The benefits of service cannot be disputed. Evidence shows that service and volunteering lowers school dropout and crime rates, lowers costs associated with the aging population, and improves health among the elderly.

Volunteering is a cost-effective way of working to solve the challenges facing our Nation today. That is why the passage of the GIVE Act is necessary. One of the most effective volunteer organizations in this Nation is AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps volunteers offer a range of services focused on low-income and disadvantaged communities. Our legislation recognizes their invaluable work and increases the number of participants to 100,000.

The GIVE Act also encourages programs to recruit underrepresented populations to serve, including scientists and engineers, young people in our aging-out foster care, children at risk of delinquency, and other disadvantaged young people.

I truly believe that expanding national service, particularly to disadvantaged youth, is an effective way to combat things like youth gangs and violence, and the evidence bears it out.

□ 1130

If we are serious about reducing gang violence, we must take the first step and offer children an alternative.

This legislation creates a Summer of Service program which gives middle

school and high school students an opportunity to become engaged in a positive way within their community. Through the Summer of Service program, our Nation's young people will have a chance to serve with others their own age while improving their community.

Research shows that if students are engaged in service at an early age, they continue to serve throughout their life.

We are strengthening the mission of the first responder volunteer program, the National Civil Community Corps by requiring more intense disaster and emergency relief training during down periods in order to be better prepared in a time of crisis.

We are all aware of what our Nation faced in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, and the NCCC was there to respond, and continues to recover today.

The GIVE Act will help our Nation become better prepared for future disasters by training and preparing more emergency volunteers. The GIVE Act creates in the corporation an office of outreach and recruitment. The new office will establish a reserve corps made up of those who have gone through the program and are alumni. The reserve corps alumni will be called on during emergencies, disasters, or other times of national need.

We've heard people asking over and over again during our hearings, why aren't we using former volunteers? The new outreach office will work to connect over 500,000 former volunteers who can be resources for recruitment.

The GIVE Act lowers the age of participation in the National Senior Service to 55 years old. By lowering the age, we are encouraging retiring Americans to participate in national service and giving older Americans the opportunity to lead us into the future. Our Nation's retiring and retired adults are a rich resource that cannot be overlooked.

Every American, old and young, has skills that improve the day-to-day functions of our society. The GIVE Act encourages individuals to get involved, creates a deeper commitment to service, and makes our Nation more like what it should be.

I want to again thank Chairman MILLER for his deep commitment to national service, Ranking Member MCKEON and Congressman PLATTS for their work with us on this bipartisan activity. And I urge my colleagues to support this much needed legislation.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to speak today, and I certainly rise also in support of H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act. This program will certainly strengthen and finally reauthorize the Nation's national and community service programs. And after 15 years, this reauthorization is certainly long overdue.

I want to add my words of praise and thanks to my Chair, Chairwoman

MCCARTHY, as well as to the full committee Chair, Chairman MILLER, and the ranking member, BUCK MCKEON, for their important leadership in moving this reauthorization forward of this very important program that promotes active involvement of citizens of all ages.

In 1973, Congress passed the Domestic Volunteer Service Act, DVSA, to foster and expand volunteer service in communities while helping vulnerable and disadvantaged populations such as the elderly and the poor. DVSA authorized the National Senior Volunteer Corps, made up of the Foster Grandparents Program, the Senior Companion Program, and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

Seventeen years later, Congress passed the National and Community Service Act, NCSA, of 1990. NCSA aims to address unmet human, educational, environmental, and public safety needs, as well as to renew a sense of civic responsibility by encouraging citizens to participate in national service programs. Authorized under NCSA are Learn and Serve America, AmeriCorps State and national grants, and the National Civilian Community Corps.

Both DVSA and NCSA are administered by the Corporation for National Community Service, and both laws were most recently amended in 1993 by the National and Community Service Act. While authorization of appropriations for both laws expired at the end of fiscal year 2006, these programs have remained funded through annual appropriations measures.

I'm pleased to be a cosponsor of H.R. 2857, the GIVE Act, and believe that this bill makes commonsense improvements to our Nation's national service programs. Not only does it provide increased flexibility for States, but importantly, and as referenced by Ranking Member MCKEON, it also increases accountability and efficiency within the administration of these programs.

H.R. 2857 strengthens existing community and national service programs by providing year-round service opportunities for students and elderly alike, and further encourages involvement of disadvantaged youth. This legislation also expands eligibility requirements for senior serving programs like Foster Grandparents and the Senior Companion Program, ensuring that individuals with an interest in serving have options available to them. Finally, the GIVE Act reauthorizes DVSA and NCSA through fiscal year 2013.

Recent natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as the wild fires in California, have showcased the important efforts of AmeriCorps and NCCC volunteers. I am proud to be part of this effort to strengthen national service programs and ensure that participants can continue to aid disadvantaged and needy populations. And I have seen firsthand in my district the great work of senior citizens in the Senior Companion Program and

young citizens in AmeriCorps partnering with Habitat for Humanity to truly make a difference in Central Pennsylvania. And we know that these efforts are being replicated across the country.

So, Madam Chairman, I hope that all will join in supporting the GIVE Act and vote in favor of this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, may I inquire how much time we have on both sides.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from New York has 19½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 22½ minutes remaining.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HARE), a member of the Education and Labor Committee.

Mr. HARE. Madam Chairman, H.R. 2857, the GIVE Act, reauthorizes our national service programs for the first time in 15 years. This legislation strengthens programs like AmeriCorps, Vista, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America so they can continue their invaluable services and expand into underserved communities.

The people of my congressional district are no strangers to community service. We have four effective Retired Senior Volunteer Programs, known as RSVPs, located in my district: West Central Illinois RSVP, Adams County RSVP, RSVP of the Quad Cities, and RSVP of Springfield, Illinois. Together, these programs engage 3,464 volunteers in 577,226 hours of services in 13 counties. I had the opportunity to visit several of these last October and was impressed by their organization, their large number of volunteers, and the variety of services that they offer.

Illinois RSVP volunteers serve the young and old, the healthy and the infirm. They work in hospitals, nursing homes, libraries, with the Red Cross, police department, and assist with home delivery meal programs. These dedicated volunteers touch the lives of hundreds of people and have a profound impact on the communities in which they serve.

I want to thank Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member MCKEON, and their staffs for their work on this legislation and their efforts to address these concerns.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Chairman, I yield as much time as he consumes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA).

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Chairman, you know it's a good day today where we have the opportunity to go back and reauthorize the Corporation for National and Community Service. This is a program that 15 years ago is a program that I supported, and I'm glad that this Congress is going to take the steps to move this program forward and continue the efforts in this area.

However, if we're really going to protect the Corporation for National and Community Service, if we are really

going to protect the individuals that are working in these types of programs, what we should have been doing today and what we should do is we should extend the terrorist surveillance program. We should pass FISA modernization.

You know, 3 weeks ago the majority said that this bill would come to the floor. They needed a 3-week extension to get the bill done. That expires this week.

We're going to have a long day today. We'll be here till 2 or 3 o'clock, which I think will be the third week in a row where we will go home early and we will not take care of this vital national security issue.

We've had a 6-month extension, we had a 2-week extension. The program now has lapsed for 3 weeks. Each and every day our capabilities erode just a little bit more. And each and every day we remove these capabilities to track foreign terrorists by our Intelligence Community, each and every day America becomes a little bit more vulnerable. Americans living at home, people in this program, our men and women in uniform in Afghanistan and in Iraq, they're a little bit more vulnerable. Our embassy personnel around the world are a little bit more vulnerable.

Earlier this week the statement was made, well, you know, we'd maybe like to do FISA this week but the schedule is just too full. We're not going to have the opportunity to get to it. We're not going to have the opportunity to get to it. We're going to be done working some time in the middle of the afternoon and we're going to leave a national security issue laying on the table for the third week in a row?

Will the majority deal with this issue next week? Will they deal with it before we go on recess? Or will they allow it to lapse for 6 weeks? How vulnerable does America need to become before the majority decides to act on FISA?

I just wonder if the majority's even looking at what's going on around the world, taking a look at the attacks that are taking place in Pakistan, taking a look at the attacks that are happening in Afghanistan, listening to the rhetoric that's coming out of Iran, listening to the rhetoric that's coming out from al Qaeda in Iraq, listening to the rhetoric that's coming out of Hezbollah in Syria and in Lebanon. There are threats against our allies. There are threats against Western Europe. There are threats against our friends in Northern Africa. There are threats against Western Europe, and yes, there are threats against the United States of America.

They're not listening to what al Qaeda and radical jihadists and other terrorists are saying. They're not reading what these individuals are saying, because if you were listening to what they were saying, if you were reading what they were writing, and if you were watching what they were doing, you would understand that the threat is real and that it is a grave mistake to

allow this intelligence tool and to allow other intelligence tools to erode continually.

Yes, America's more vulnerable today than it was 3 weeks ago. America is more vulnerable today than it was 14 months ago because, on national security issue after national security issue, the other side refuses to give our intelligence community the tools that they need to keep America safe. These tools have developed. They've evolved. They've been working very, very well in protecting America. But for the last 14 months, the majority has not only let these tools evolve and deteriorate, in many cases they've been under direct attack from the majority. Today our intelligence community is paying a price because they do not have the tools necessary to keep America safe. Hopefully, America will not pay a price because the intelligence community hasn't been given the tools by the majority to keep America safe.

It's time to bring the Senate bill to the floor. This is a bill that has widespread support, passed by 68 votes in the Senate, supported by a majority of the Republicans and the Democrats in the Senate.

Bring that bill to the House. Bring it up right after the GIVE Act. Make sure that we've got the tools in place to keep America safe and to keep the people working in this program and other programs safe.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague on the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Chairman, I rise today to commend Chairman MILLER, Chairwoman MCCARTHY, Ranking Member McKEON, and others for putting together a very strong reauthorization of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973.

□ 1145

It supports the Nation's priorities in a number of important areas. In particular, I'd like to thank the committee's leadership for recognizing the critical role that veterans and older Americans can play in solving problems and strengthening communities, by recommending several new provisions.

Our veterans are simply the best of what this country has to offer, both with respect to their exemplary character and the technical, professional, and administrative expertise which they acquire during their years of service. They are an invaluable and untapped resource to underserved communities. America should embrace the opportunity to establish a well-defined veterans-centered and -integrated community support system based on national and community service. The GIVE Act begins a national conversation on how to make this happen.

Every day nearly 8,000 of the Nation's 78 million baby boomers turn 60. We

know from research that the vast majority plan to work or stay engaged in their community well past traditional retirement age. This is a wonderful opportunity, given their stated interest in helping others and the ever-worsening labor shortage in education, health care, government, and nonprofit work.

I'm a strong supporter of the idea that those who have finished their mid-life careers can be a force for social good in the 21st century. By turning the aging of America into a positive story, we can tap into this energy. It is going to take creativity, experimentation, bold action, and looking to the future more than the past. Congress has a critical responsibility, along with the States and the private sector, to ensure baby boomers will have the opportunity to serve.

We talk about this wave of returning veterans, and we talk about the demographic wave of aging Americans. How you respond to a wave depends on how you position yourself. That wave can either come crashing down on us, or it can be a wave that lifts us up and moves us forward.

I look forward to continuing to work with the committee and this Congress to explore additional proposals to capture the energy, idealism, and talent of our veterans and millions of older Americans who want to make a major contribution to the public good.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Chairman, I certainly am pleased to be part of moving this legislation, the GIVE Act; but I do want to associate myself with the gentleman from Michigan, the ranking member of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, on the importance of us moving the reauthorization of FISA; and, hopefully, we will get to that as quickly as possible and restore the tools to our intelligence community they need to protect our Nation and our citizens.

With that, I'd like to yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Frankly, I don't think there is a more important bill than this; and yet to hear some of the critics, it's like we're just paying people to be volunteers.

The thing I love about Ronald Reagan was Ronald Reagan believed in the future of America, the youth of America, and that the best was yet to come. And he gave us a sense of hope, as did President Kennedy.

When President Kennedy talked about the Peace Corps, I was in eighth grade. My parents bought a TV set to listen to the debate between Nixon and President Kennedy, and I was just enthralled by a President who asked me, a young person, to do something for the world, and that was to become a Peace Corps volunteer.

And from that point on, that was one of my dreams. It was something I

wanted to do . . . become a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Guess what? Peace Corps volunteers are paid. We earn a salary and are given a stipend because we have to eat. We are given a certain sum of money at the end, not for education, but to frankly be able to come back and just buy some clothes. When you clean your underwear on rocks for 2 years, you don't want to continue to wear them when you get home.

So what did President Clinton want to do? He said we have the Peace Corps for those who volunteer overseas. And we have Vista for those who want to be of service in these United States. But we can make Vista better. We're going to have expanded national service here at home, and by the way, while this was happening we in Congress were getting rid of summer jobs for kids.

The President said and I want this expanded national service program to be a bipartisan proposal. I want to work with Republicans. Let's make this something all of us can get behind.

I got excited with his call to us. Let's work together, and we did. Because instead of a national program where one-size-fits-all, he said it's going to be a competitive process, something Republican should like.

And by the way, I'll just say parenthetically, Ms. MATSUI has an amendment that I am a chief cosponsor of that says let's have more of the dollars be competed for by State and local communities. It's an amendment that should pass.

So what we did is have a national program called AmeriCorps, but we had two-thirds of it going to the States. Now, the problem with that is you're going to have some bad programs that might get funded. The good thing about it is you're going to have some great programs that are going to be funded. And so former President Clinton took a risk. He said instead of having a one-size-fits-all, which would mean we'll have vanilla, and, no one can criticize it, we had some great programs and some bad programs. So the critics of AmeriCorps then took the bad programs and started to criticize as if this was all of AmeriCorps, as if this was the President's national service bill.

Well, the bottom line is we have some great programs. Thank God we had these programs for people impacted by Katrina and other natural disasters. In my part of the country, we have young people who are giving to their neighbors, and if you think they're paid, they're paid a minimum wage and they have a stipend they can use towards their education. It gets them to think about their future and get an education.

But we have people here who will say, well, let's give out Pell Grants, we're going to give out Pell Grants for nothing; and yet we have an opportunity to give out grants that someone actually earned.

I can't speak more strongly for this legislation. I congratulate President

Clinton for bringing it forward, for working with Republicans, at least those who were willing to work with him, and for having a program that has energized young people to be of service.

There are six former Peace Corps volunteers in this House, three Republicans, three Democrats. If you asked any one of us what was the most significant time in our lives, it was serving in the Peace Corps. It was helping others. But we came back more enriched than probably we gave. And I'm absolutely certain of this, the folks that are doing national service, they don't get much monetarily, but they give a lot; and in return they get a lot in terms of their personal development. They grow as individuals. They have more confidence in themselves. I think they're better Americans.

I hope whoever's the next President, and we have three good candidates to choose from, I have a preference obviously, but I think that they are going to inspire Americans to be of greater service, and they could use this legislation to help them.

I hope we pass it, and I thank our sponsors for bringing this bill out. I particularly want to thank our colleagues from New York and from Pennsylvania for their effort here today. God bless this country and God bless this program.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, I'd like to yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from New Hampshire (Ms. SHEA-PORTER), a member of the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee.

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Chairman, as a former social worker and administrator and a cosponsor of the GIVE Act, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 2857.

I was able to see firsthand the hard work and self-sacrifice and dedication of our AmeriCorps volunteers during the Katrina recovery effort. As a relief volunteer myself, I worked side by side with the AmeriCorps volunteers. You can't say enough about these young people who gave of themselves and worked tirelessly for many, many hours to give comfort to their fellow Americans. This convinced me how essential AmeriCorps and other national service programs really are to this Nation.

My experiences as a social worker and as an administrator and relief volunteer have made the reauthorization of this program a high priority for me, and I'm proud that it's a high priority for this Congress as well.

I'm also grateful that the committee passed my amendment to increase the minimum amount of the State formula grants. This increase acknowledges that these volunteer programs are equally important in smaller States such as New Hampshire. These programs and the participants who are in them work miracles for very low money, and we need to thank them.

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Chairman, I'd like to reserve the balance of my time at this point.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), a former member of the Education Committee.

Mr. KIND. Madam Chairman, I want to thank and commend my good friend Mrs. MCCARTHY from New York for the wonderful leadership that she has shown in the reauthorization of this important legislation.

I agree with my good friend and colleague from Connecticut that this is one of the more important pieces of legislation that we will be dealing with in this session of Congress, and I commend the efforts of everyone on the committee for the bipartisan support that's been shown on behalf of this bill.

Madam Chairman, this legislation will provide a vital increase in funding for a variety of domestic volunteer service programs, including AmeriCorps, Volunteers in Service to America, and Learn and Serve America. Expanding these important community-based programs is essential so that residents in the neediest places receive the assistance that they need and deserve.

I'm very proud that my home State of Wisconsin has more than 35 AmeriCorps programs. Jump Start for Young Children is just one of several programs that help prepare young children from low-income families to succeed and go on in school. Just this past year, this program benefited from the service of 3,500 corps members and volunteers from over 70 colleges. Together, these individuals were able to assist more than 13,000 preschoolers in over 20 of our States in this country. I'd like to applaud the hard work and selfless efforts of these individuals who have not only rebuilt houses in communities but also lives.

I'm especially proud that three of my congressional staff members are former AmeriCorps volunteers: Karrie Jackelen, Brad Smith, and David De Gennaro. The contributions of these participants is truly admirable given the enormous difference they've made in so many lives.

Mr. Chairman, there is a yearning for community involvement and community service across this country, and it's especially acute with the youth, the children of our Nation.

It was unfortunate that the current President sent this Nation to war without asking for any type of contribution or significant sacrifice from the average American. Except for our troops and their families who have borne the brunt of this sacrifice and burden, there's very little asked of the American people.

This legislation, which was the vision of President Clinton and his administration, tries to correct that deficiency. It's a good, bipartisan bill. I encourage my colleagues to pass the GIVE Act today.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I will continue to reserve my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN).

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, otherwise known as the GIVE Act. This legislation speaks to what makes our country great, Americans volunteering to give back to their communities. Volunteerism is so important to helping the less fortunate, working to better one's community, and instilling a sense of patriotism and love for one's country.

Volunteers are critical to pulling our country through hard times. Following the hurricanes that plagued my home State of Florida, I witnessed firsthand the overwhelming response from volunteers who came out to respond to the needs of hurricane victims. Volunteers came together to provide these victims with clothing, food, shelter, and other items that displaced residents and families needed to get their lives back on track.

The GIVE Act will continue this strong tradition of volunteerism in America by increasing community service opportunities and providing new incentives for volunteering.

□ 1200

Furthermore, I am proud to support legislation that puts a premium on disaster preparedness and emergency response.

I would like to commend Representative MCCARTHY for her work on this bill and urge my colleagues to support this bill for the betterment of all our communities and our country as a whole.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. HOLDEN). Each side has 11 minutes remaining.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, with that, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, as we have been working through this bill, through our hearings and everything else, and listening to the volunteers that work in AmeriCorps and other aspects of volunteering, and also listening to our young people from communities that are underserved on how they want to serve and be part of it, before my colleague from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) talked about how we've done away with summer jobs. We see in our communities today more and more of our young people joining gangs and getting into trouble. We see that our juvenile justice system and our prisons are being overflowed, unfortunately, with young people. This is a program that can help them.

You know, I look at our country and I marvel at how people volunteer and give their time to help other people that are in need. With the programs that we're putting forth and through the work of the subcommittee and

through the work of my colleague Mr. PLATTS from Pennsylvania, we have put together a great bill. This is a bill that can help people to the future. This is a bill that incorporates our elderly and our young. So, it's something that I think we should all be proud of. And certainly I'm hoping that we're not going to have any controversies further down the line.

And may I just say one thing: A number of speakers have gotten up and talked about the FISA bill. Let me say this to the American people: With the continuation that we have, this country is being protected. And we are trying to work it out with our colleagues from the other side and the administration. But let me make one thing very clear, the country is being protected. The intelligence committees can do what they need to do, and our intelligence community is getting information at that.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I want to again just thank my subcommittee chairman, Chairwoman MCCARTHY, for her leadership on this important legislation, as well as the full committee Chair, Mr. MILLER, and the ranking member, Mr. MCKERON.

As a number of speakers have talked about their own experience and the gentleman from Connecticut, through his work in the Peace Corps, these opportunities to participate in the programs that are funded and authorized under the National Community and Service Act impact not just those who receive the benefit of the work done, but those who actually participate. And with a family member who has participated in AmeriCorps, I have seen that impact on that individual and how they were a stronger person and better prepared for the rest of their adult years because of having been part of AmeriCorps.

So, again, I urge a "yes" vote for this legislation and look forward to it moving forward through the House and working with the Senate to get it to the President's desk.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education or "GIVE" Act.

This legislation reauthorizes and strengthens our national service programs. I would like to thank my good friend CAROLYN MCCARTHY, chairwoman of the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee and Congressman TODD PLATTS, the ranking member, for their excellent, bipartisan work on this legislation.

The spirit of service runs strong in America. Many Americans—young and old, rich and poor—look for ways to give back to their communities and the Nation. Our national service programs nurture this spirit and ensure that all American have opportunities to serve.

The GIVE Act will increase the number of AmeriCorps volunteers to 100,000. In my congressional district AmeriCorps volunteers are promoting community development, improving

education, and enhancing the quality of life for many of our residents. They bring a great deal of energy and contribute to a strong sense of community in our area.

The GIVE Act fosters an ethic of civic engagement in young people through a summer of service program that will enable students in middle and high school to volunteer and earn an education award for college.

The GIVE Act promotes service in areas of national need for global competitiveness, such as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The GIVE Act will ensure that we can effectively and efficiently mobilize volunteers in times of national disaster.

The GIVE Act strengthens opportunities for our seniors by providing flexibility to the senior corps programs. In my congressional district, we have very strong programs that engage our seniors in service and provide them companionship and support. Our seniors continue to make tremendous contributions to our communities. We cannot afford to let their talent or energy go to waste.

My home State of Texas is a big believer in national service. We have 48,000 senior corps members. Since 1994, 24,000 Texans have earned education awards by serving as AmeriCorps volunteers; 48,000 students have participated in Learn and Serve America, linking service with academic achievement.

The GIVE act will make this great tradition of service even stronger. I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the GIVE Act and I thank my colleague Mrs. MALONEY for her leadership on this issue. Volunteers in our National Service Corps are doing the hard work of building what I like to call the Beloved Community—a community at peace with itself based on justice and human dignity.

We all live in one house, the American house, and people are suffering. We need so many more Americans to volunteer, to share their talents, their time and their love. That is how we form the Beloved Community.

So many Americans are giving of themselves through AmeriCorps/VISTA, Summer of Service, and our Senior Volunteer Corps. Many more want to give and volunteer, but they can't find the time. They are stuck at work trying to make ends meet. They sit in traffic. They are helping their kids with homework. Businesses and governments need to encourage and allow people to volunteer.

Young people have been behind all of the great social movements in this Nation. We must tap into the idealism and the talents of our young people, and the young at heart, who can build bridges and ease suffering.

Something is happening in America. In Atlanta, we are embracing the merger between the Points of Light Foundation and the "Hands On" Network. I want to mention their good work and their leadership in recruiting and training volunteers.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to find more ways, like competitive grants for nonprofits, to expand our volunteer infrastructure, to push our national service agenda forward.

The GIVE Act is a good bill. It has my support. I thank my colleagues.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chairman, throughout our history, American citizens have never hesitated to heed the call to service. They

have answered in times of peace and prosperity, in times of war and recession. They have donated time and money and sweat—as much as they could, whenever it was needed.

When our Nation faced the Great Depression, President Roosevelt formed the Civilian Conservation Corps and put citizens to work for the national interest. When we faced political uncertainty in the world, President Kennedy challenged our young people to serve and dispatched the Peace Corps on missions of international aid and public diplomacy. And when neighbors have challenges, when communities struggle, or when the Nation sees tragedy, our citizens rally and lend a hand.

In recent years, we have seen some of the largest increases in volunteerism in history. This new trend is led by our young people, who are serving in record numbers. The number of college students who volunteer increased by 20 percent between 2002 and 2005. And the programs we consider today are a key part of that service.

Today's legislation will increase enrollment in AmeriCorps and establish ways to deploy AmeriCorps alumni in times of national need. It will establish an Office of Outreach and Recruitment to match new volunteers with service opportunities. It will create a new program, a Summer of Service, to encourage more young people to help their communities. It will strengthen our emergency preparedness and disaster response with improvements to the National Civilian Community Corps. And it will challenge our scientists, mathematicians, and engineers to meet our Nation's technical needs with creativity and innovation.

Mr. Chairman, Americans have made tremendous investments through national service. Let us, in turn, pass this legislation today to assist their efforts and continue their commitment to our Nation's future.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act. The GIVE Act will expand the Corporation for National and Community Service which has been instrumental in helping connect Americans to high quality, meaningful service and service-learning opportunities. The GIVE Act will increase the benefits of service available to more participants and more communities, improve program quality, ensure participant diversity, increase the value of the AmeriCorps education award, and reduce the age eligibility for Senior Corps to 55.

In the last 14 years more than 500,000 individuals have served through AmeriCorps and have earned education awards worth more than \$1.5 billion. Senior Corps members have generated more than 1 billion volunteer service hours, and more than 15 million young people have participated in service-learning initiatives funded by Learn and Serve America. In addition, the national service programs have provided opportunities for growing numbers of Americans to serve our Nation.

Since AmeriCorps was created in 1994, Texas has benefited from over 22,000 young people serving for at least 1 year in our communities. Through programs such as the "National Civilian Community Corps" and "City Year," AmeriCorps volunteers address critical Texas needs in the areas of education, public safety, disaster response and recovery, and environment preservation. These programs serve the important role of providing an outlet for service to the country in a manner previously not afforded.

Mr. Chairman, the AmeriCorps program has done great things for Texas and this Nation as a whole, as is reflected in the AmeriCorps members pledge to "get things done." I am indeed honored to support this wonderful program which represents the very best of the United States of America.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Committee on Education and Labor for all of their work in bringing this bill to the floor today.

National service is one of the most productive, cost efficient investments the Federal Government can make.

My wife Betsi and I were Peace Corps volunteers and we call ourselves volunteers because we gave 2 years of our lives in service to others.

AmeriCorps is a similar program to Peace Corps. It takes 18, 19, 20-year-old kids and gives them an opportunity to work in a program mentored by various nonprofit organizations.

The passion of participants in Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, and other national service programs is undeniable. As they give back to their country they also learn something about themselves, each other, and the world around them.

I am pleased H.R. 2857 expands the AmeriCorps program and increases the education award, which participants in the program receive upon completion of service.

As the cost of a college education increases, students often have to choose between public service careers and other jobs to pay back student loans.

I am also pleased we are making amendments in order under this rule because I believe they will strengthen this underlying reauthorization.

Congresswoman MATSUI and I have offered an amendment to streamline funding for State and national AmeriCorps programs, which will encourage coordination, efficiency, and high quality programs.

Furthermore, this amendment will improve the collaboration between State and national entities to better serve local needs.

Congressman McDERMOTT, Congressman FARR and I have offered an amendment to establish a Congressional Commission on Civic service that will investigate ways to increase and encourage service opportunities throughout the country.

The Commission will consider and promote ideas to inspire community service initiatives around the Nation.

There is no substitute for the passion of our Nation's volunteers, who can be found mentoring students, building houses, assisting senior citizens or beautifying our national parks.

As a co-sponsor of this legislation, I am proud to support national service initiatives and encourage my colleagues to support this important reauthorization today.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I would like to take a minute to recognize an enduring legacy of John F. Kennedy—the Peace Corps—in recognition of its 47th anniversary this year. It is an honor to serve with the likes of my colleague and friend CHRIS SHAYS and others in this body and the others who serve our country in the enhancement of citizen diplomacy. I hope all Americans will join us in supporting and expanding this enduring commitment to convey our values as a Nation.

As Fareed Zakaria wrote: "We must begin to think about life after Bush—a cheering prospect for his foes, a dismaying one for his fans (however few there may be at the moment). In 11 months he will be a private citizen, giving speeches to insurance executives. America, however, will have to move on and restore its place in the world. To do this we must first tackle the consequences of our foreign policy of fear. Having spooked ourselves into believing that we have no option but to act fast, alone, unilaterally and pre-emptively, we have managed in six years to destroy decades of international good will, alienate allies, embolden enemies and yet solve few of the major international problems we face."

The London Financial Times last December reported that the U.S. has suffered a significant loss of power and prestige around the world in the years since the beginning of this century, limiting our ability to influence international crises, according to an annual survey from a well regarded British security think-tank. The 2007 Strategic Survey of the non-partisan International Institute for Strategic Studies' picked the decline of U.S. authority as one of the most important security developments of the past year—but suggested the fading of American prestige began earlier, largely due to its failings in Iraq.

One of our most special and effective citizen agencies of public diplomacy is the Peace Corps. Think of this—more than 187,000 volunteers have served this venerable legacy of former President Kennedy, serving in 139 countries—where they bring our values to other peoples, and bring understanding and appreciation of other cultures back home.

The greatest gift of the Peace Corps and other civilian programs is not just that ordinary Americans share their values and our culture with other peoples, but also that when volunteers return, they bring greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

Foreign policy is not just what we do, but also who we are. America as a place has often been the great antidote to U.S. foreign policy—and it should be again. Mr. Zakaria writes that "When American actions across the world have seemed harsh, misguided or unfair, America itself has always been open, welcoming and tolerant. . . ."

At the end of the day, our openness is our greatest foreign policy. We have succeeded not because of the ingenuity of our government, but rather because of efforts like this unique program to keep ourselves open to the world—to sending our people out across the countries of the world to share our unique culture, our goods and services, our ideas and inventions, our people and cultures. This openness, this civilian diplomacy, has allowed us to make friends across boundaries. It will be central to our place as a nation in the future.

This week, as we celebrate National Peace Corps Week, we honor the more than 190,000 volunteers who have served in 139 developing countries since President Kennedy's call to service in 1961—and I honor 44 of my constituents currently serving our country in places as diverse as China, Mali, Azerbaijan, Macedonia, El Salvador, and Namibia. This can be lonely and demanding service, but service that can create enduring friendships and values that transcend boundaries and cultures.

Today, more than 8,000 Peace Corps volunteers around the world are currently providing

training and education in 74 countries. These volunteers each donate their time and skills for over 2 years, in order to make a difference in the world and to promote understanding between cultures. By offering their valuable skills and showing a passion for helping others, they show the world that Americans value learning and cross-cultural exchange.

Volunteers work in areas of education, health and HIV/AIDS, business development, environment, agriculture and youth, and must often be creative and flexible when living and working in new cultures and learning new languages. The resulting experience is rewarding for all involved, and it highlights the importance of cooperation and involvement between cultures around the globe.

When volunteers return home and share their overseas experiences with their communities, the Peace Corps helps Americans as much as the people in developing countries. From recent college graduates to doctors with decades of experience, volunteers choose to use their valuable skills and education to help people all over the world, but their work affects their lives long after returning home.

This week we remember the dedication and passion of Peace Corps volunteers, young and old, current and returned. We thank them for their service, and encourage more Americans to volunteer with the Peace Corps.

SWORN-IN VOLUNTEERS IN THE DISTRICT OF VA-08

Volunteer Name, Country of Service, Start of SVC Date, Projected COS Date

Adriance, Joel E, ECUADOR, 31-Aug-2005, 30-Sep-2008.

Armitage, Emily M, BULGARIA, 19-Oct-2006, 10-Oct-2008.

Arnaoudova, Ina M, AZERBAIJAN, 13-Sep-2006, 12-Sep-2008.

Ballenger, Charles J, EL SALVADOR, 30-Nov-2006, 28-Nov-2008.

Banks, Cecilia M, ECUADOR, 31-Aug-2005, 30-Sep-2008.

Bergin, Sarah M, SURINAME, 03-Aug-2006, 03-Aug-2008.

Braslavsky, Gelena, BULGARIA, 29-Jun-2007, 30-Jun-2009.

Cabrera, Luis J, NICARAGUA, 20-Jul-2007, 17-Jul-2009.

Calnan, Shannon M, ROMANIA, 27-Jul-2007, 26-Jul-2009.

Chadbourne IV, Charles C, COSTA RICA, 14-Sep-2006, 19-Sep-2008.

Cohen, Matthew B, GHANA, 21-Aug-2007, 20-Aug-2009.

Davies, Meghan E, HONDURAS, 20-Apr-2006, 14-Mar-2008.

Doherty, Jennifer J, JAMAICA, 25-Aug-2006, 25-Aug-2008.

Ferrara, Erin J, FIJI, 03-Aug-2006, 03-Aug-2008.

Ficke, Melanie K, HONDURAS, 07-Sep-2006, 06-Sep-2008.

GarciaLahiguera, Andres J, ROMANIA, 27-Jul-2007, 26-Jul-2009.

Geurtsen, Christopher P, VANUATU, 21-Jun-2007, 19-Jun-2009.

Glock, Porter O, FIJI, 03-Aug-2006, 03-Aug-2008.

Guachamin, Marcela A, COSTA RICA, 18-May-2007, 15-May-2009.

Gustafson, Kevin L, GUYANA, 26-Jul-2007, 25-Jul-2009.

Houk, Kathryn G, BOLIVIA, 28-Jul-2006, 01-Aug-2008.

Huckstep, Melanie L, CHINA, 07-Sep-2007, 08-Sep-2009.

Hurley, Emelia M, BOLIVIA, 13-Apr-2006, 11-Apr-2008.

Infantino, Ann Marie C, HONDURAS, 27-Sep-2007, 25-Sep-2009.

Johnston, Elizabeth A, PARAGUAY, 21-Apr-2006, 18-Apr-2008.

Landrigan, Gregory J, PANAMA, 28-Jul-2005, 04-Sep-2008.

Luckett, Christina C, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 26-May-2006, 05-May-2008.

Mandt, Kehl R, CHINA, 09-Jun-2005, 16-Aug-2009.

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Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, the GIVE Act, H.R. 2857. I congratulate Chairman MILLER and Chairwoman MCCARTHY and Ranking Members MCKEON and PLATTS on their work toward this day and moving us closer to finally reauthorizing the Corporation for National and Community Service.

There are many noteworthy programs in the GIVE Act, including Senior Corps and AmeriCorps, which give countless Americans the opportunity to volunteer. Today, I would like to bring attention to a new and very promising program that I have worked to include in the GIVE Act. This new part of the law will provide grants to non-profit organizations to encourage increased volunteer, community, workforce, and educational participation in older adults.

Recent research shows that Americans in the second half of life—regardless of income, educational level, or race—want to explore options for the next stage of life, including service opportunities, obtaining new training, retooling existing skills, pursuing educational interests, and exploring flexible work.

This initiative is a timely and necessary way to help the large U.S. 'boomer' generation make the transition to a new productive life phase by providing support and community connections for ongoing learning, development, and contribution to society. Similar programs currently function as an initiative of Civic Ventures and are a proven success.

I am hopeful that we will be able to bring a program to my district to assist those that are in a transition period, whether they have lost a job, are looking for a career change, or would like to move into a volunteer role in the community.

Mr. Chairman, again I thank the leadership of the Education and Labor Committee and its

excellent staff for assisting in securing this program authorization and in moving the GIVE Act forward.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2857, the "Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act" or the "GIVE Act." I would like to thank my colleague Congresswoman MCCARTHY for introducing this important legislation, as well as the Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, Congressman GEORGE MILLER, for his leadership in bringing the bill to the floor today.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation will make vital strides toward expanding and improving key community service programs, including AmeriCorps, VISTA, Senior Corps, and Learn and Serve America. The GIVE Act works to ensure that volunteers, and the organizations that support them, will receive the resources that they need to continue their vital work in our communities.

Today's legislation embodies the altruistic spirit that has made our Nation great. Great numbers of Americans donate their time and their unique skills and gifts to our cities and communities, without any expectation of compensation or material reward. According to a 2005 study, 29 percent of the American public, or about 65.4 million people, had volunteered in the past year.

This legislation engages our youth and fosters a sense of civic duty. At many of our Historically Black Colleges and Universities the idea of continual service to community is embedded into the very walls of the institution. Right in this city, Howard University has symbolically and yet openly stated its belief in service. Veritas and Utilitas, Truth and Service is on the very seal of the University. Institutions such as Texas Southern University and Texas A&M University continue to provide our young people with leadership skills that are grounded in service and compassion for their fellow man.

That is why I was so pleased to see Section 1202 of this legislation, giving special consideration to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities. I want to thank Chairman MILLER for allowing me to add to this great bill. By adding predominately minority community colleges to the list of those to receive special consideration, we help so many more students who have a commitment to service.

Our community colleges are growing as many of our returning veterans, single parents, and seniors desire to make a change in their life circumstances and simply cannot afford traditional higher education. A sense of civic engagement is not fostered only among students at Harvard and Berkeley; it is also found among students at community colleges like Houston Community College and North Harris College. I thank the Chairman for recognizing this needed addition and incorporating it into the Manager's Amendment.

The GIVE Act would: (1) increase the number of AmeriCorps volunteers from 75,000 to 100,000 by 2012; (2) increase stipends for AmeriCorps volunteers from \$4,725 to \$5,225 by 2012; (3) initiate a "Summer of Service" program for young people from middle school through high school to give them the opportunity to spend a summer in service to their community, for which they would receive a \$500 stipend for college or for college prepa-

ration; and (4) create an AmeriCorps Alumni Reserves Network aimed at tapping into the skills and experience of alumni volunteers, with a particular focus on assisting during emergencies or natural disasters.

I am proud to cosponsor legislation that will add service before self to our leaders of tomorrow. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act. I would like to thank Chairman GEORGE MILLER, Ranking Member MCKEON, Chairwoman MCCARTHY, and Ranking Member PLATTS for their work on this bill.

H.R. 2857 reauthorizes the national service programs for the first time in over 10 years and contains many positive changes and updates for these programs. During committee consideration of the bill, I added language to make many of these programs more accessible for court-involved youth and adults, including individuals who have previously been incarcerated. I believe that getting these individuals involved in service could be a positive first step to reintegrating these individuals into their communities and giving them an avenue to begin positively participating in society.

Although I support this bill, I remained concerned about one provision, which requires the recompetition of grants under the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, RSVP. During committee consideration of this bill, Congressman HARE and I submitted an amendment that would have given existing RSVP grantees in good standing priority consideration for future grants. Since that time, we have worked with the committee to improve the provision that is in the bill, including giving existing programs technical assistance and additional time to prepare for recompetition. I appreciate this work towards a more fair system.

However, I believe that existing programs in good standing should be given a stronger priority in the recompetition process, whether that is by only recompetition under-performing programs such as in the Head Start program or by utilizing a prior experience point system such as in the TRIO programs. Through serving their communities for many years and in some cases decades, these existing programs have established strong ties in their communities on which many seniors rely and from which many others benefit. I remain concerned that the language in the base bill will create a recompetition process that will essentially become a grant-writing competition without consideration for current RSVP programs' experience and effectiveness.

Although I remain concerned about the recompetition process for RSVP programs, I intend to support the bill and urge my colleagues to support it as well.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2857, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered read.

The text of the committee amendment is as follows:

H.R. 2857

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act” or the “GIVE Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT OF 1990

Sec. 1001. References.

Subtitle A—Amendments to Subtitle A (General Provisions)

Sec. 1101. Purposes; sense of Congress.

Sec. 1102. Definitions.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Subtitle B (Service-Learning)

Sec. 1201. School-based allotments.

Sec. 1202. Higher education provisions.

Sec. 1203. Innovative programs and research.

Subtitle C—Amendments to Subtitle C (National Service Trust Program)

Sec. 1301. Prohibition on grants to Federal agencies; limits on Corporation costs.

Sec. 1302. E-Corps and technical amendments to types of programs.

Sec. 1303. Types of positions.

Sec. 1304. Conforming repeal relating to training and technical assistance.

Sec. 1305. Assistance to State Commissions; challenge grants.

Sec. 1306. Allocation of assistance to States and other eligible entities.

Sec. 1307. Additional authority.

Sec. 1308. State selection of programs.

Sec. 1309. Consideration of applications.

Sec. 1310. Description of participants.

Sec. 1311. Selection of national service participants.

Sec. 1312. Terms of service.

Sec. 1313. Adjustments to living allowance.

Subtitle D—Amendments to Subtitle D (National Service Trust and Provision of National Service Educational Awards)

Sec. 1401. Availability of funds in the National Service Trust.

Sec. 1402. Individuals eligible to receive a national service educational award from the Trust.

Sec. 1403. Determination of the amount of national service educational awards.

Sec. 1404. Disbursement of educational awards.

Sec. 1405. Process of approval of national service positions.

Subtitle E—Amendments to Subtitle E (National Civilian Community Corps)

Sec. 1501. Purpose.

Sec. 1502. Program components.

Sec. 1503. Eligible participants.

Sec. 1504. Summer national service program.

Sec. 1505. Team leaders.

Sec. 1506. Training.

Sec. 1507. Consultation with State Commissions.

Sec. 1508. Authorized benefits for Corps members.

Sec. 1509. Permanent cadre.

Sec. 1510. Contract and grant authority.

Sec. 1511. Other departments.

Sec. 1512. Advisory Board.

Sec. 1513. Annual evaluation.

Sec. 1514. Repeal of funding limitation.

Sec. 1515. Definitions.

Sec. 1516. Terminology.

Subtitle F—Amendments to Subtitle F (Administrative Provisions)

Sec. 1601. Family and medical leave.

Sec. 1602. Additional prohibitions on use of funds.

Sec. 1603. Notice, hearing, and grievance procedures.

Sec. 1604. Resolution of displacement complaints.

Sec. 1605. State Commissions on National and Community Service.

Sec. 1606. Evaluation and accountability.

Sec. 1607. Technical amendment.

Sec. 1608. Partnerships with schools.

Sec. 1609. Rights of access, examination, and copying.

Sec. 1610. Additional administrative provisions. Subtitle G—Amendments to Subtitle G (Corporation for National and Community Service)

Sec. 1701. Terms of office.

Sec. 1702. Board of Directors authorities and duties.

Sec. 1703. Authorities and duties of the Chief Executive Officer.

Sec. 1704. Nonvoting members; personal services contracts.

Sec. 1705. Donated services.

Sec. 1706. Office of Outreach and Recruitment.

Sec. 1707. Study to examine and increase service programs for veterans and veterans participation in Service Corps and Community Service and to develop pilot program.

Subtitle H—Amendments to Subtitle H

Sec. 1801. Technical amendments to subtitle H.

Sec. 1802. Repeals.

Sec. 1803. Innovative and model program support.

Sec. 1804. Clearinghouses.

Subtitle I—American Conservation and Youth Service Corps

Sec. 1811. State application.

Subtitle J—Training and Technical Assistance

Sec. 1821. Training and technical assistance.

Subtitle K—Repeal of Title III (Points of Light Foundation)

Sec. 1831. Repeal.

Subtitle L—Amendments to Title V (Authorization of Appropriations)

Sec. 1841. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF 1973

Sec. 2001. References.

Subtitle A—Amendments to Title I (National Volunteer Antipoverty Programs)

Sec. 2101. Purpose.

Sec. 2102. Purpose of the VISTA program.

Sec. 2103. Applications.

Sec. 2104. VISTA programs of national significance.

Sec. 2105. Terms and periods of service.

Sec. 2106. Support Service.

Sec. 2107. Sections repealed.

Sec. 2108. Conforming amendment.

Sec. 2109. Financial assistance.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Title II (National Senior Volunteer Corps)

Sec. 2201. Change in name.

Sec. 2202. Purpose.

Sec. 2203. Grants and contracts for volunteer service projects.

Sec. 2204. Foster Grandparent Program grants.

Sec. 2205. Senior Companion Program grants.

Sec. 2206. Promotion of National Senior Service Corps.

Sec. 2207. Technical amendments.

Sec. 2208. Programs of national significance.

Sec. 2209. Additional provisions.

Sec. 2210. Authority of Director.

Subtitle C—Amendments to Title IV (Administration and Coordination)

Sec. 2301. Nondisplacement.

Sec. 2302. Notice and hearing procedures.

Sec. 2303. Definitions.

Sec. 2304. Protection against improper use.

Subtitle D—Amendments to Title V (Authorization of Appropriations)

Sec. 2401. Authorization of appropriations for VISTA and other purposes.

Sec. 2402. Authorization of appropriations for National Senior Service Corps.

Sec. 2403. Administration and coordination.

TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

Sec. 3101. Inspector General Act of 1978.

TITLE IV—TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TABLES OF CONTENTS

Sec. 4101. Table of contents for the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

Sec. 4102. Table of contents for the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973.

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 5101. Effective date.

Sec. 5102. Service assignments and agreements.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT OF 1990

SEC. 1001. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a provision of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.).

Subtitle A—Amendments to Subtitle A (General Provisions)

SEC. 1101. PURPOSES; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) **PURPOSES.**—Section 2(b) (42 U.S.C. 12501(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “community throughout” and inserting “community and service throughout the varied and diverse communities of”;

(2) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “income,” the following: “geographic location.”;

(3) in paragraph (6), by inserting after “existing” the following: “national”;

(4) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by striking “programs and agencies” and inserting “programs, agencies, and communities”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(5) in paragraph (8), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) expand and strengthen service-learning programs through year-round opportunities, including during the summer months, to improve the education of children and youth and to maximize the benefits of national and community service, in order to renew the ethic of civic responsibility and the spirit of community to children and youth throughout the United States;

“(10) assist in coordinating and strengthening Federal and other citizen service opportunities, including opportunities for participation in emergency and disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery;

“(11) increase service opportunities for our Nation’s retiring professionals, including such opportunities for those retiring from the science, technical, engineering, and mathematics professions to improve the education of our Nation’s youth and keep America competitive in the global knowledge economy, and to further utilize the experience, knowledge, and skills of older Americans;

“(12) encourage the continued service of the alumni of the national service programs, including service in times of national need; and

“(13) encourage members of the Baby Boom generation to partake in service opportunities.”.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—The Act is amended by inserting after section 2 the following:

“SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

“It is the sense of Congress that the number of participants in the AmeriCorps programs, including the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) and the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), should grow to reach 100,000 participants by 2012.”.

SEC. 1102. DEFINITIONS.

Section 101 (42 U.S.C. 12511) is amended—

(1) by redesignating—
(A) paragraphs (21) through (29) as paragraphs (28) through (36), respectively;

(B) paragraphs (9) through (20) as paragraphs (15) through (26), respectively; and

(C) paragraphs (7) and (8) as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively; and

(D) paragraphs (3) through (6) as paragraphs (5) through (8), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) **APPROVED SUMMER OF SERVICE POSITION.**—The term ‘approved summer of service position’ means a position in a program described under section 111(a)(5) for which the Corporation has approved the provision of a summer of service educational award as one of the benefits to be provided for successful service in the position.

“(4) **BABY BOOM GENERATION.**—The term ‘Baby Boom generation’ means the generation that consists of individuals born during the period beginning with 1946 and ending with 1964.”;

(3) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated), by striking “described in section 122”;

(4) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking “church or other”;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (8) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(9) **DISADVANTAGED YOUTH.**—The term ‘disadvantaged youth’ includes those youth who are economically disadvantaged and one or more of the following:

“(A) Who are out-of-school youth, including out-of-school youth who are unemployed.

“(B) Who are in or aging out of foster care.

“(C) Who have limited English proficiency.

“(D) Who are homeless or who have run away from home.

“(E) Who are at-risk to leave school without a diploma.

“(F) Who are former juvenile offenders or at risk of delinquency.”;

(6) by inserting after paragraph (11) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(12) **GRANTMAKING ENTITY.**—The term ‘grantmaking entity’ means a public or private nonprofit organization that—

“(A) has experience with service-learning or with meeting unmet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs;

“(B) was in existence at least one year before the date on which the organization submitted an application under the national service laws; and

“(C) meets other such criteria as the Chief Executive Officer may establish.

“(13) **HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.**—The term ‘Hispanic-serving institution’ has the meaning given the term in section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)).”;

“(14) **HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.**—The term ‘historically black college or university’ means a part B institution, as defined in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)).”;

(7) in paragraph (19) (as so redesignated), by striking “section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965” and inserting “sections 101(a) and 102(a)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965”;

(8) in paragraph (23)(B) (as so redesignated), by striking “program in which the participant is enrolled” and inserting “organization receiving assistance under the national service laws through which the participant is enrolled in an approved national service position”;

(9) by inserting after paragraph (26) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(27) **QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION.**—The term ‘qualified organization’ means a public or private nonprofit organization with experience working with school-age youth that meets such criteria as the Chief Executive Officer may establish.”; and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

“(37) **TRIBALLY CONTROLLED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.**—The term ‘tribally controlled college

or university’ has the meaning given in section 2 of the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801).”.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Subtitle B (Service-Learning)

SEC. 1201. SCHOOL-BASED ALLOTMENTS.

Part I of subtitle B of title I (42 U.S.C. 12521 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

“PART I—PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS

“SEC. 111. ASSISTANCE TO STATES, TERRITORIES, AND INDIAN TRIBES.

“(a) **ALLOTMENTS TO STATES, TERRITORIES, AND INDIAN TRIBES.**—The Corporation, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, may make allotments to State educational agencies, Territories, and Indian tribes to pay for the Federal share of—

“(1) planning and building the capacity within the State, Territory, or Indian tribe to implement service-learning programs that are based principally in elementary and secondary schools, including—

“(A) providing training for teachers, supervisors, personnel from community-based agencies (particularly with regard to the recruitment, utilization, and management of participants), and trainers, to be conducted by qualified individuals or organizations that have experience with service-learning;

“(B) developing service-learning curricula, consistent with State or local academic content standards, to be integrated into academic programs, including an age-appropriate learning component that provides participants an opportunity to analyze and apply their service experiences;

“(C) forming local partnerships described in paragraph (2) or (4) to develop school-based service-learning programs in accordance with this part;

“(D) devising appropriate methods for research and evaluation of the educational value of service-learning and the effect of service-learning activities on communities;

“(E) establishing effective outreach and dissemination of information to ensure the broadest possible involvement of community-based agencies with demonstrated effectiveness in working with school-age youth in their communities; and

“(F) establishing effective outreach and dissemination of information to ensure the broadest possible participation of schools throughout the State, with particular attention to schools identified for school improvement under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.);

(2) implementing, operating, or expanding school-based service-learning programs, which may include paying for the cost of the recruitment, training, supervision, placement, salaries, and benefits of service-learning coordinators, through distribution of Federal funds by State educational agencies, Territories, and Indian tribes made available under this part to projects operated by local partnerships among—

“(A) local educational agencies; and

“(B) 1 or more community partners that—

“(i) shall include a public or private nonprofit organization that—

“(I) has a demonstrated expertise in the provision of services to meet unmet human, education, environmental, or public safety needs;

“(II) will make projects available for participants, who shall be students; and

“(III) was in existence at least 1 year before the date on which the organization submitted an application under section 113; and

“(ii) may include a private for-profit business, private elementary or secondary school, or Indian tribe (except that an Indian tribe distributing funds to a project under this paragraph is not eligible to be part of the partnership operating that project);

“(3) planning of school-based service-learning programs, through distribution by State educational agencies, Territories, and Indian tribes

of Federal funds made available under this part to local educational agencies and Indian tribes, which planning may include paying for the cost of—

“(A) the salaries and benefits of service-learning coordinators; or

“(B) the recruitment, training, supervision, and placement of service-learning coordinators who may be participants in a program under subtitle C or receive a national service educational award under subtitle D, who may be participants in a project under section 201 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5001), or who may participate in a Youthbuild program under section 173A of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2918a),

who will identify the community partners described in paragraph (2)(B) and assist in the design and implementation of a program described in paragraph (2);

“(4) implementing, operating, or expanding school-based service-learning programs to utilize adult volunteers in service-learning to improve the education of students, through distribution by State educational agencies, Territories, and Indian tribes of Federal funds made available under this part to—

“(A) local educational agencies;

“(B) Indian tribes (except that an Indian tribe distributing funds under this paragraph is not eligible to be a recipient of those funds);

“(C) public or private nonprofit organizations; or

“(D) partnerships or combinations of local educational agencies and entities described in subparagraph (B) or (C); and

“(5) establishing or implementing summer of service programs during the summer months, including the cost of recruitment, training, and placement of service-learning coordinators—

“(A) for youth who will be enrolled in any grade from grade 6 through grade 12 at the end of the summer concerned;

“(B) for community-based service-learning projects that—

“(i) shall—

“(I) meet unmet human, educational, environmental (including energy conservation and stewardship), emergency and disaster preparedness, and public service needs; and

“(II) be intensive, structured, supervised, and designed to produce identifiable improvements to the community; and

“(ii) may include the extension of academic year service-learning programs into the summer months;

“(C) through the distribution of Federal funds made available under this part to projects operated by local partnerships that consist of local educational agencies and—

“(i) public or private elementary schools or secondary schools;

“(ii) institutions of higher education;

“(iii) public or private non-profit organizations that—

“(I) have a demonstrated expertise in providing services to meet unmet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs; and

“(II) have been in existence for at least 1 year before the date on which the organization submitted an application under section 113;

“(iv) for-profit businesses; or

“(v) a consortia of such entities;

“(D) under which any student who completes 100 hours of service in an approved summer of service position, as certified through a process determined by the Corporation through regulations consistent with section 139(f), shall be eligible for a summer of service educational award of not more than \$500 (or, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, not more than \$1,000 in the case of a participant who is economically disadvantaged) from funds deposited in the National Service Trust and distributed by the Corporation as described in section 148; and

“(E) subject to the limitation that a student may not receive more than 2 summer of service educational awards from funds deposited in the National Service Trust.

“(b) PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN SERVICE LEARNING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds appropriated under section 501(a)(1), and without regard to section 112(b), the Corporation shall reserve up to 3 percent for competitive grants to partnerships described in subsection (a)(2) for the development of service-learning programs that promote greater civic engagement among elementary and secondary school students.

“(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, a partnership shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation may require.

“(3) ACTIVITIES.—Partnerships receiving grants under this subsection shall use funds to develop service-learning curricula that—

“(A) promote a better understanding of the principles of the Constitution of the United States, the heroes of American history (including military heroes), and the meaning of the Oath of Allegiance;

“(B) promote a better understanding of how the Nation's government functions; and

“(C) promote a better understanding of the importance of service in the Nation's character.

“(c) DUTIES OF SERVICE-LEARNING COORDINATOR.—A service-learning coordinator referred to in paragraph (2), (3), or (5) of subsection (a) shall provide services that may include—

“(1) providing technical assistance and information to, and facilitating the training of, teachers and assisting in the planning, development, execution, and evaluation of service-learning in their classrooms;

“(2) assisting local partnerships described in subsection (a) in the planning, development, and execution of service-learning projects, including summer of service programs; and

“(3) carrying out such other duties as the recipient of assistance under this part may determine to be appropriate.

“(d) RELATED EXPENSES.—An entity that receives financial assistance under this part may, in carrying out the activities described in subsection (a), use such assistance to pay for the Federal share of reasonable costs related to the supervision of participants, program administration, transportation, insurance, and evaluations and for other reasonable expenses related to the activities.

“SEC. 112. ALLOTMENTS.

“(a) INDIAN TRIBES AND TERRITORIES.—Of the amounts appropriated to carry out this part for any fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve an amount of not less than 2 percent and not more than 3 percent for payments to Indian tribes, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be allotted in accordance with their respective needs.

“(b) ALLOTMENTS THROUGH STATES.—After reserving the amount under subsection (a), the Corporation shall use the remainder of the funds appropriated to carry out this part for any fiscal year as follows:

“(1) ALLOTMENTS.—

“(A) SCHOOL-AGE YOUTH.—From 50 percent of such remainder, the Corporation shall allot to each State an amount that bears the same ratio to 50 percent of such remainder as the number of school-age youth in the State bears to the total number of school-age youth of all States.

“(B) ALLOCATION UNDER ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.—From 50 percent of such remainder, the Corporation shall allot to each State an amount that bears the same ratio to 50 percent of such remainder as the allocation to the State for the previous fiscal year under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) or its successor authority bears to such allocations to all States.

“(2) DEFINITION.—Notwithstanding section 101, for purposes of this subsection, the term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

“(c) REALLOTMENT.—If the Corporation determines that the allotment of a State, Territory, or Indian tribe under this section will not be required for a fiscal year because the State, Territory, or Indian tribe did not submit and receive approval of an application for the allotment under section 113, the Corporation shall make the allotment for such State, Territory, or Indian tribe available for grants to grantmaking entities to carry out service-learning programs as described in section 111(a) in such State, Territory, or Indian tribe. After grantmaking entities apply for the allotment with an application at such time and in such manner as the Corporation requires and receive approval, the remainder of such allotment shall be available for reallocation to such other States, Territories, or Indian tribes with approved applications submitted under section 113 as the Corporation may determine to be appropriate.

“SEC. 113. APPLICATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive an allotment under section 112 or an allotment of approved summer of service positions under section 111(a)(5)(D), a State, acting through the State educational agency, Territory, or Indian tribe shall prepare, submit to the Corporation, and obtain approval of, an application at such time and in such manner as the Chief Executive Officer may reasonably require.

“(b) CONTENTS.—An application for an allotment under this part shall include—

“(1) a proposal for a 3-year plan promoting service-learning, which shall contain such information as the Chief Executive Officer may reasonably require, including how the applicant will integrate service opportunities into the academic program of the participants;

“(2) information about the applicant's efforts to—

“(A) ensure that students of different ages, races, sexes, ethnic groups, disabilities, and economic backgrounds have opportunities to serve together;

“(B) include any opportunities for students enrolled in schools or other programs of education providing elementary or secondary education to participate in service-learning programs and ensure that such service-learning programs include opportunities for such students to serve together;

“(C) involve participants in the design and operation of the program;

“(D) promote service-learning in areas of greatest need, including low-income or rural areas; and

“(E) otherwise integrate service opportunities into the academic program of the participants; and

“(3) assurances that the applicant will comply with the nonduplication and nondisplacement requirements of section 177 and the grievance procedures required by section 176.

“(c) APPLICATION TO STATE, TERRITORY, OR INDIAN TRIBE TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE TO CARRY OUT SCHOOL-BASED SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any—

“(A) qualified organization, Indian tribe, Territory, local educational agency, for-profit business, private elementary, middle, or secondary school, or institution of higher education that desires to receive financial assistance under this subpart from a State, Territory, or Indian tribe for an activity described in section 111(a)(1);

“(B) partnership described in section 111(a)(2) that desires to receive such assistance from a State, Territory, or Indian tribe or grantmaking entity described in section 111(a)(2);

“(C) entity described in section 111(a)(3) that desires to receive such assistance from a State, Territory, or Indian tribe for an activity described in such section;

“(D) partnership described in section 111(a)(4) that desires to receive such assistance from a State, Territory, or Indian tribe for an activity described in such section;

“(E) agency or partnership described in section 111(a)(5) that desires to receive such assistance, or approved summer of service positions, from a State, Territory, or Indian tribe for an activity described in such section to be carried out through a service-learning program described in section 111,

shall prepare, submit to the State educational agency, Territory, grantmaking entity, or Indian tribe, and obtain approval of, an application for the program.

“(2) SUBMISSION.—Such application shall be submitted at such time and in such manner, and shall contain such information, as the agency, Territory, Indian tribe, or entity may reasonably require.

“(d) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of section 112, if less than \$20,000,000 is appropriated for any fiscal year to carry out this part, the Corporation shall award grants to States, Territories, and Indian tribes from the amount so appropriated, on a competitive basis to pay for the Federal share of the activities described in section 111.

“SEC. 114. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS.

“(a) PRIORITY.—In considering competitive applications under this part, the Corporation shall give priority to innovation, sustainability, capacity building, involvement of disadvantaged youth, and quality of programs, as well as other criteria approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

“(b) REJECTION OF APPLICATIONS.—If the Corporation rejects an application submitted by a State under section 113 for an allotment, the Corporation shall promptly notify the State of the reasons for the rejection of the application. The Corporation shall provide the State with a reasonable opportunity to revise and resubmit the application and shall provide technical assistance, if needed, to the State as part of the resubmission process. The Corporation shall promptly reconsider such resubmitted application.

“SEC. 115. PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent consistent with the number of students in the State, Territory, or Indian tribe or in the school district of the local educational agency involved who are enrolled in private nonprofit elementary and secondary schools, such State, Territory, Indian tribe, or agency shall (after consultation with appropriate private school representatives) make provision—

“(1) for the inclusion of services and arrangements for the benefit of such students so as to allow for the equitable participation of such students in the programs implemented to carry out the objectives and provide the benefits described in this part; and

“(2) for the training of the teachers of such students so as to allow for the equitable participation of such teachers in the programs implemented to carry out the objectives and provide the benefits described in this part.

“(b) WAIVER.—If a State, Territory, Indian tribe, or local educational agency is prohibited by law from providing for the participation of students or teachers from private nonprofit schools as required by subsection (a), or if the Corporation determines that a State, Territory, Indian tribe, or local educational agency substantially fails or is unwilling to provide for such participation on an equitable basis, the Chief Executive Officer shall waive such requirements and shall arrange for the provision of services to such students and teachers. Such waivers shall be subject to the requirements of sections 9503 and 9504 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7883 and 7884).

“SEC. 116. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

“(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which assistance is provided under this part may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program.

“(2) *NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.*—In providing for the remaining share of the cost of carrying out such a program, each recipient of assistance under this part—

“(A) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services; and

“(B) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services.

“(b) *WAIVER.*—The Chief Executive Officer may waive the requirements of subsection (a) in whole or in part with respect to any such program for any fiscal year if the Corporation determines that such a waiver would be equitable due to a lack of available financial resources at the local level.

“SEC. 116A. LIMITATIONS ON USES OF FUNDS.

“Not more than 6 percent of the amount of assistance received by an applicant in a fiscal year may be used to pay, in accordance with such standards as the Corporation may issue, for administrative costs, incurred by—

“(1) the original recipient; or

“(2) the entity carrying out the service-learning program supported with the assistance.”.

SEC. 1202. HIGHER EDUCATION PROVISIONS.

Section 119 (42 U.S.C. 12561) is redesignated as section 117 and amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting after “community service programs” the following: “through service-learning”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “combination” and inserting “consortia”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding “and” at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) may coordinate with service-learning curricula being offered in the academic curricula at the institution of higher education or at one or more members of the consortia;”;

(3) in subsection (b)(3)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “teachers at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels” and inserting “institutions of higher education and their faculty”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “education of the institution; and” and inserting “curricula of the institution to strengthen the instructional capacity of service-learning at the elementary and secondary levels;”;

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (E); and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) including service-learning as a key component of the health professionals curricula, including nursing, pre-medicine, medicine, and dentistry curricula of the institution;

“(C) including service-learning as a key component of the criminal justice professionals curricula of the institution;

“(D) including service-learning as a key component of the public policy and public administration curricula of the institution; and”;

(4) by striking subsections (c), (d), (e), and (g);

(5) by redesignating subsection (f) as (i); and

(6) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) *SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.*—To the extent practicable, the Corporation shall give special consideration to applications submitted by predominantly Black institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

“(d) *FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS.*—

“(1) *FEDERAL SHARE.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which a grant is made under this part may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program.

“(B) *NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.*—In providing for the remaining share of the cost of carrying out such a program, each recipient of a grant under this part—

“(i) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services; and

“(ii) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services.

“(2) *WAIVER.*—The Chief Executive Officer may waive the requirements of paragraph (1) in whole or in part with respect to any such program for any fiscal year if the Corporation determines that such a waiver would be equitable due to a lack of available financial resources at the local level.

“(e) *APPLICATION FOR GRANT.*—

“(1) *SUBMISSION.*—To receive a grant or enter into a contract under this part, an applicant shall prepare, submit to the Corporation, and obtain approval of, an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as the Corporation may reasonably require. In requesting applications for assistance under this part, the Corporation shall specify such required information and assurances.

“(2) *CONTENTS.*—An application submitted under paragraph (1) shall contain, at a minimum—

“(A) assurances that—

“(i) prior to the placement of a participant, the applicant will consult with the appropriate local labor organization, if any, representing employees in the area who are engaged in the same or similar work as that proposed to be carried out by such program, to prevent the displacement and protect the rights of such employees; and

“(ii) the applicant will comply with the non-duplication and nondisplacement provisions of section 177 and the grievance procedures required by section 176; and

“(B) such other assurances as the Chief Executive Officer may reasonably require.

“(f) *PRIORITY.*—In making grants and entering into contracts under subsection (b), the Corporation shall give priority to applicants or institutions that submit applications containing proposals that—

“(1) demonstrate the commitment of the institution of higher education, other than by demonstrating the commitment of the students, to supporting the community service projects carried out under the program;

“(2) specify the manner in which the institution will promote faculty, administration, and staff participation in the community service projects;

“(3) specify the manner in which the institution will provide service to the community through organized programs, including, where appropriate, clinical programs for students in professional schools and colleges;

“(4) describe any partnership that will participate in the community service projects, such as a partnership comprised of—

“(A) the institution;

“(B)(i) a community-based agency;

“(ii) a local government agency; or

“(iii) a non-profit entity that serves or involves school-age youth, older adults, or low-income communities; and

“(C)(i) a student organization;

“(ii) a department of the institution; or

“(iii) a group of faculty comprised of different departments, schools, or colleges at the institution;

“(5) demonstrate community involvement in the development of the proposal;

“(6) describe research on effective strategies and methods to improve service utilized in the design of the project;

“(7) specify that the institution will use such assistance to strengthen the service infrastructure in institutions of higher education; or

“(8) with respect to projects involving delivery of services, specify projects that involve leadership development of school aged youth.

“(g) *DEFINITION.*—Notwithstanding section 101, as used in this part, the term ‘student’ means an individual who is enrolled in an institution of higher education on a full- or part-time basis.

“(h) *FEDERAL WORK-STUDY.*—To be eligible for assistance under this part, an institution of higher education must demonstrate that it meets the minimum requirements under section 443(b)(2)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 2753(b)(2)(B)) relating to the participation of Federal Work-Study students in community service activities, or has received a waiver of those requirements from the Secretary of Education.”.

SEC. 1203. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH.

Subtitle B of title I (42 U.S.C. 12521 et seq.) is further amended by adding after part II the following new part:

“PART III—INNOVATIVE SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH

“SEC. 118. INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH.

“(a) *IN GENERAL.*—From the amounts appropriated to carry out this part for a fiscal year, the Corporation may make grants and fixed amount grants under subsection (f) with eligible entities for activities described in subsection (c).

“(b) *ELIGIBLE ENTITIES DEFINED.*—For purposes of this part, the term ‘eligible entity’ means a State education agency, a State commission, a Territory, an Indian tribe, an institution of higher education, a public or private nonprofit organization, or a consortia of such entities, where a consortia of two or more such entities may also include a for-profit organization.

“(c) *AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.*—Funds under this part may be used to—

“(1) integrate service-learning programs into the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) curricula at the elementary, secondary, or post-secondary and post-baccalaureate levels in coordination with practicing or retired STEM professionals;

“(2) involve students in service-learning programs focusing on energy conservation in their community, including conducting educational outreach on energy conservation and working to improve energy efficiency in low income housing and in public spaces;

“(3) involve students in service-learning projects in emergency and disaster preparedness;

“(4) involve students in service-learning projects aimed at improving access to and obtaining the benefits from computers and other emerging technologies, including in low income or rural communities, senior centers and communities, schools, libraries, and other public spaces;

“(5) involve high school age youth in the mentoring of middle school youth while involving all participants in service-learning to seek to meet unmet human, educational, environmental, public safety, or emergency disaster preparedness needs in their community;

“(6) conduct research and evaluations on service-learning, including service-learning in middle schools, and disseminate such research and evaluations widely;

“(7) conduct innovative and creative activities as described in section 111(a); and

“(8) carry out any other innovative service-learning programs or research that the Corporation considers appropriate.

“(d) *PRIORITY.*—Priority shall be given to programs that—

“(1) involve students and community stakeholders in the design and implementation of the service-learning program;

“(2) implement service-learning programs in low-income or rural communities; and

“(3) utilize adult volunteers, including tapping the resource of retired and retiring adults, in the planning and implementation of the service-learning programs.

“(e) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) **THREE-YEAR TERM.**—Each program funded under this part shall be carried out over a period of three years, including one planning year and two additional grant years, with a 1-year extension possible, if the program meets performance measures developed in accordance with section 179(a) and any other criteria determined by the Corporation.

“(2) **ENCOURAGEMENT.**—Each program funded under this part is encouraged to collaborate with other Learn and Serve programs, AmeriCorps, VISTA, and the National Senior Service Corps.

“(3) **EVALUATION.**—Upon completion of the program, the Corporation shall conduct an independent evaluation of the program and widely disseminate the results to the service community through multiple channels, including the Corporation's Resource Center or a clearinghouse of effective strategies and recommendations for improvement.

“(f) **FIXED AMOUNT GRANTS.**—

“(1) **GENERAL.**—For purposes of subsection (a), and subject to the limitations in this subsection, the Corporation may, upon making a determination described in paragraph (2), approve a fixed amount grant that is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget cost principles and related financial recordkeeping requirements.

“(2) **DETERMINATION.**—Before approving a fixed amount grant, the Corporation must determine that—

“(A) the reasonable and necessary costs of carrying out the terms of the grant significantly exceed the amount of assistance provided by the Corporation; or

“(B) based on the nature or design of the grant, any assistance provided by the Corporation can be reasonably presumed to be expended on reasonable and necessary costs.

“(3) **MATCHING FUNDS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which a grant is made under this part may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program.

“(B) **NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.**—In providing for the remaining share of the cost of carrying out such a program, each recipient of a grant under this part—

“(i) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services; and

“(ii) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services.

“(g) **APPLICATIONS.**—To be eligible to carry out a program under this part, an entity shall prepare, submit to the Corporation, and obtain approval of, an application at such time and in such manner as the Chief Executive Officer may reasonably require.”

Subtitle C—Amendments to Subtitle C (National Service Trust Program)

SEC. 1301. PROHIBITION ON GRANTS TO FEDERAL AGENCIES; LIMITS ON CORPORATION COSTS.

Section 121 (42 U.S.C. 12571) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting after “subdivisions of States,” the following: “Territories,”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “AGREEMENTS WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES” and inserting “RESTRICTIONS ON AGREEMENTS WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence by striking “by the agency.” and inserting “by the agency, including programs under the Public Lands Corps and

Urban Youth Corps as described in section 122(a)(2).”; and

(ii) by striking the second sentence;

(C) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) **PROHIBITION ON GRANTS.**—The Corporation may not provide a grant under this section to a Federal agency.”; and

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “receiving assistance under this subsection” and inserting “operating a national service program”; and

(ii) by striking “using such assistance”;

(3) in subsection (c)(2)(B), by striking “to be provided” and inserting “to be provided or otherwise approved”;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “FIVE” and inserting “SIX”; and

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “5 percent” and inserting “6 percent”; and

(5) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “section 140” and inserting “paragraph (2)”; and

(ii) by striking “Federal share” and inserting “Corporation share”;

(iii) by inserting after “cost” the following: “, including member living allowances, employment-related taxes, health care coverage, and worker's compensation.”

(iv) by striking “may not exceed 75 percent of such cost.” and inserting “may not exceed—”;

(v) by adding at the end the following:

“(A) for the first three years in which the recipient receives such assistance, 76 percent of such cost;

“(B) for the fourth through ninth years in which the recipient receives such assistance, a decreasing share of such cost between 76 percent and 50 percent, as established by the Corporation in regulation; and

“(C) for the tenth year (and each year thereafter) in which the recipient receives such assistance, 50 percent of such cost.”;

(B) by striking paragraph (3);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) **ALTERNATIVE CORPORATION SHARE FOR PROGRAMS IN RURAL OR SEVERELY ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES.**—Upon approval by the Corporation, the Corporation share of the cost, including member living allowances, employment-related taxes, health care coverage, and worker's compensation, of carrying out a national service program that receives assistance under subsection (a) and that is located in a rural or severely economically distressed community may not exceed—

“(A) for the first six years in which the recipient receives such assistance, 76 percent of such cost;

“(B) for the seventh through ninth years in which the recipient receives such assistance, a decreasing share of such cost between 76 and 65 percent as established by the Corporation in regulation; and

“(C) for the tenth year (and each year thereafter) in which the recipient receives such assistance, 65 percent of such cost.”;

(E) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), in subparagraph (B), by inserting after “other Federal sources” the following: “including funds authorized under Youthbuild (section 173A of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2918a))”; and

(F) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) **OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS.**—

“(A) **RECIPIENT REPORT.**—A recipient of assistance under section 121 shall report to the Corporation the amount and source of any Federal funds used to carry out the program other than those provided by the Corporation.

“(B) **CORPORATION REPORT.**—The Corporation shall report to the Congress on an annual basis

information regarding each recipient that uses Federal funds other than those provided by the Corporation to carry out the program, including amounts and sources of other Federal funds.”.

SEC. 1302. E-CORPS AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TYPES OF PROGRAMS.

Section 122 (42 U.S.C. 12572) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (b)(1)” and inserting “subsection (c)(1)”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “including” and all that follows through the semicolon at the end and inserting “including projects involving urban renewal, sustaining natural resources, or improving human services.”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “including” and inserting “and at least 50 percent of whom are”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C)(i), by inserting “, including mentoring” before the semicolon;

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting “; or”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) students participating in service-learning programs at an institution of higher education.”;

(D) in paragraph (7)(A), by inserting “, including elementary and secondary education, and other professions such as those in health care, criminal justice, environmental stewardship and conservation, or public safety” before the semicolon;

(E) in paragraph (8)(C), by striking “non-profit”;

(F) in paragraph (9), by striking “between the ages of 16 and 24” and inserting “between the ages of 16 and 25”;

(G) in paragraph (10), by striking “gifted young adults” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “school-age youth and young adults of all backgrounds, including gifted youth, along with established successful entrepreneurs of all backgrounds and professions from the community in which the program exists to—

“(A) train the participants in utilizing problem-solving, entrepreneurship, and communication skills to design solutions to community problems; and

“(B) collaborate with stakeholders in the communities to implement the solutions devised by the participants in subparagraph (A).”;

(H) in paragraph (12)(A), by striking “learning and recreation” and inserting “learning, recreation, and mentoring”;

(I) in paragraph (13), by striking “and to combat rural poverty, including” and inserting “, including the issues of rural poverty,”;

(J) by redesignating paragraph (15) as paragraph (19); and

(K) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

“(15) An E-Corps program that involves participants who provide services in a community by developing and assisting in carrying out technology programs which seek to increase access to technology and the benefits thereof in such community.

“(16) A program that engages citizens in public safety, public health, and emergency and disaster preparedness, and may include the recruitment and placing of qualified participants in positions to be trainees as law enforcement officers, firefighters, search and rescue personnel, and emergency medical service workers, and may engage Federal, State, and local stakeholders in collaboration to organize more effective responses to issues of public safety and public health, emergencies, and disasters.

“(17) A program, initiative, or partnership that seeks to expand the number of mentors for youths (including by recruiting high-school and college-aged individuals to enter into mentoring

relationships), including mentors for disadvantaged youths, either through provision of direct mentoring services through the creative utilization of current and emerging technologies to connect youth with mentors.

“(18) A program that has the primary purpose of re-engaging court-involved youth and adults with the goal of reducing recidivism.”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as (c) and (d), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF VETERANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds appropriated under section 501(a)(2), the Corporation shall reserve up to 3 percent for competitive grants to eligible recipients under subsection (a) for the development, either directly or through subgrants to other entities, of innovative initiatives to address the unique needs of veterans.

“(2) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, an entity described in paragraph (1) shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation may require.

“(3) ACTIVITIES.—Entities receiving grants under this subsection shall use funds to develop initiatives that—

“(A) recruit veterans, particularly returning veterans, into service opportunities;

“(B) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a member of the family is deployed; and

“(C) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment.”;

(4) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (4), by inserting after “out-of-school youths,” the following: “disadvantaged youths,”;

(5) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “subsection (b) or (d) of”; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR TUTORS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Corporation shall require that each recipient of assistance under the national service laws that operates a tutoring program involving elementary or secondary school students certifies that individuals serving in approved national service positions as tutors in such program have—

“(A) either—

“(i) obtained their high school diploma; or

“(ii) passed a proficiency test demonstrating that such individuals have the skills necessary to achieve program goals; and

“(B) have successfully completed pre- and in-service training for tutors.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—The requirements in paragraph (1) do not apply to an individual serving in an approved national service position who is enrolled in an elementary or secondary school and is providing tutoring services through a structured, school-managed cross-grade tutoring program.

“(f) REQUIREMENTS FOR TUTORING PROGRAMS.—Each tutoring program that receives assistance under the national service laws shall—

“(1) offer a curriculum that is high quality, research-based, and consistent with the State academic content standards required by section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311) and the instructional program of the local educational agency; and

“(2) offer high quality, research-based pre- and in-service training for tutors.

“(g) CITIZENSHIP TRAINING.—The Corporation shall establish requirements for recipients of assistance under the national service laws relating to the promotion of citizenship and civic engagement, that are consistent with the principles on which citizenship programs administered by

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are based, among individuals enrolled in approved national service positions and approved summer of service positions.”.

SEC. 1303. TYPES OF POSITIONS.

Section 123 (42 U.S.C. 12573) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A) by inserting after “subdivision of a State,” the following: “a Territory,”; and

(2) in paragraph (5) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”.

SEC. 1304. CONFORMING REPEAL RELATING TO TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 125 (42 U.S.C. 1257) is repealed.

SEC. 1305. ASSISTANCE TO STATE COMMISSIONS; CHALLENGE GRANTS.

Section 126 (42 U.S.C. 12576) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$125,000 and \$750,000” and inserting “\$200,000 and \$825,000”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—In making grants to a State under this subsection, the Corporation shall require the State to provide matching funds in the following amounts:

“(A) FIRST \$100,000.—For the first \$100,000 of grant amounts provided by the Corporation, a State shall not be required to provide matching funds.

“(B) AMOUNTS GREATER THAN \$100,000.—For grant amounts of more than \$100,000 and not exceeding \$200,000 provided by the Corporation, a State shall provide \$1 from non-Federal sources for every \$2 provided by the Corporation.

“(C) AMOUNTS GREATER THAN \$200,000.—For grant amounts of more than \$200,000 provided by the Corporation, a State shall provide \$1 from non-Federal sources for every \$1 provided by the Corporation.”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “to national service programs that receive assistance under section 121” and inserting “to programs supported under the national service laws”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—A challenge grant under this subsection may provide, for an initial 3-year grant period, not more than \$1 of assistance under this subsection for each \$1 in cash raised from private sources by the program supported under the national service laws in excess of amounts required to be provided by the program to satisfy matching funds requirements. After an initial 3-year grant period, grants under this subsection may provide not more than \$1 of assistance for each \$2 in cash raised from private sources by the program in excess of amounts required to be provided by the program to satisfy matching funds requirements. The Corporation may permit the use of local or State funds as matching funds if the Corporation determines that such use would be equitable due to a lack of available private funds at the local level. The Corporation shall establish a ceiling on the amount of assistance that may be provided to a national service program under this subsection.”.

SEC. 1306. ALLOCATION OF ASSISTANCE TO STATES AND OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.

Section 129 (42 U.S.C. 12581) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 129. PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE AND APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

“(a) 1-PERCENT ALLOTMENT FOR CERTAIN TERRITORIES.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 121(a) for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve 1 percent for grants to the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands upon approval by the Corporation

of an application submitted under section 130. The amount allotted as a grant to each such Territory under this subsection for a fiscal year shall be equal to the amount that bears the same ratio to 1 percent of the allocated funds for that fiscal year as the population of the Territory bears to the total population of such Territories.

“(b) ALLOTMENT FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 121(a) for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve at least 1 percent for grants to Indian tribes, to be allotted by the Corporation on a competitive basis.

“(c) ALLOTMENT FOR NATIONAL GRANTS.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 121(a) for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve 23 percent for grants to nonprofit organizations to operate a program in 2 or more States.

“(d) ALLOTMENT FOR STATE COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under subsection (a) of section 121 for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve 37.5 percent for innovative grants to States on a competitive basis.

“(e) ALLOTMENT TO CERTAIN STATES ON FORMULA BASIS.—

“(1) GRANTS.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under subsection (a) of section 121 for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall make a grant to each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that submits an application under section 130 that is approved by the Corporation.

“(2) ALLOTMENTS.—The amount allotted as a grant to each such State under this subsection for a fiscal year shall be equal to the amount that bears the same ratio to 37.5 percent of the allocated funds for that fiscal year as the population of the State bears to the total population of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, in compliance with paragraph (3).

“(3) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the minimum grant made available to each State approved by the Corporation under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year must be at least \$600,000.

“(f) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO APPLY.—If a State or Territory fails to apply for, or fails to give notice to the Corporation of its intent to apply for an allotment under this section, or the Corporation does not approve the application consistent with section 133, the Corporation may use the amount that would have been allotted under this section to the State or Territory to—

“(1) make grants (and provide approved national service positions in connection with such grants) to other grantmaking entities under section 121 that propose to carry out national service programs in such State or Territory; and

“(2) make a reallocation to other States or Territories with approved applications submitted under section 130, to the extent grant-making entities do not apply as described in paragraph (1).

“(g) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—The allotment of assistance and approved national service positions to a recipient under this section shall be made by the Corporation only pursuant to an application submitted by a State or other applicant under section 130.

“(h) APPROVAL OF POSITIONS SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE FUNDS.—The Corporation may not approve positions as approved national service positions under this subtitle for a fiscal year in excess of the number of such positions for which the Corporation has sufficient available funds in the National Service Trust for that fiscal year, taking into consideration funding needs for national service educational awards under subtitle D based on completed service. If appropriations are insufficient to provide the maximum allowable national service educational awards under subtitle D for all eligible participants, the Corporation is authorized to make necessary and reasonable adjustments to program rules.

“(i) SPONSORSHIP OF APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.—

“(1) SPONSORSHIP AUTHORIZED.—The Corporation may enter into agreements with persons or entities who offer to sponsor national service positions for which the person or entity will be responsible for supplying the funds necessary to provide a national service educational award. The distribution of these approved national service positions shall be made pursuant to the agreement, and the creation of these positions shall not be taken into consideration in determining the number of approved national service positions to be available for distribution under this section.

“(2) DEPOSIT OF CONTRIBUTION.—Funds provided pursuant to an agreement under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the National Service Trust established in section 145 until such time as the funds are needed.

“(j) RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.—From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in section 501(a)(2) and subject to the limitation in such section, the Corporation may reserve such amount as the Corporation considers to be appropriate for the purpose of making assistance available under section 126.

“(k) RESERVATION OF FUNDS TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in section 501(a)(2) and subject to the limitation in such section, the Chief Executive Officer shall reserve an amount that is not less than 1 percent of such amount (except that the amount reserved may not exceed \$10,000,000), in order to make grants to public or private nonprofit organizations to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities in national service and for demonstration activities in furtherance of this purpose.”.

SEC. 1307. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.

Part II of subtitle C of title I is amended by inserting after section 129 (42 U.S.C. 12581) the following:

“SEC. 129A. EDUCATION AWARDS ONLY PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year to provide financial assistance under this subtitle and consistent with the restriction in subsection (b), the Corporation may, through fixed amount grants under subsection (d), provide operational assistance to programs that receive approved national service positions but do not receive funds under section 121(a).

“(b) LIMIT ON CORPORATION GRANT FUNDS.—Operational support under this section may not exceed \$600 per individual enrolled in an approved national service position and may reach \$800 per individual if the program supports at least 50 percent disadvantaged youth.

“(c) INAPPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—The following provisions shall not apply to programs funded under this section:

“(1) The limitation on administrative costs under section 121(d).

“(2) The matching funds requirements under section 121(e).

“(3) The living allowance and other benefits under sections 131(e) and section 140 (other than individualized support services for disabled members under section 140(f)).

“(d) FIXED AMOUNT GRANTS.—

“(1) GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), and subject to the limitations in this subsection, the Corporation may, upon making a determination described in paragraph (2), approve a fixed amount grant that is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget cost principles and related financial recordkeeping requirements.

“(2) DETERMINATION.—Before approving a fixed amount grant, the Corporation must determine that—

“(A) the reasonable and necessary costs of carrying out the terms of the grant significantly

exceed the amount of assistance provided by the Corporation; or

“(B) based on the nature or design of the grant, any assistance provided by the Corporation can be reasonably presumed to be expended on reasonable and necessary costs.”.

SEC. 1308. STATE SELECTION OF PROGRAMS.

Section 130 (42 U.S.C. 12582) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting after “State,” the following: “Territory,”; and

(B) by striking “institution of higher education, or Federal agency” and inserting “or institution of higher education”;

(2) in subsection (b)(9) by striking “section 122(c)” and inserting “section 122(d)”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “jobs or positions” and inserting “proposed positions”; and

(ii) by striking “, including” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting a period; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by inserting “proposed” before “minimum”;

(4) in subsection (e)(2) by striking “were selected” and inserting “were or will be selected”;

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “a program applicant” and inserting “an applicant”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “PROGRAM APPLICANT” and inserting “APPLICANT”;

(ii) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “program applicant” and inserting “applicant”;

(iii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting after “subdivision of a State,” the following: “Territory,”; and

(II) by striking “institution of higher education, or Federal agency” and inserting “or institution of higher education”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting after “subdivision of a State,” the following: “Territory,”; and

(II) by striking “institution of higher education, or Federal agency” and inserting “or institution of higher education”; and

(6) in subsection (g), by striking the period and inserting “or is already receiving financial assistance from the Corporation.”.

SEC. 1309. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS.

Section 133 (42 U.S.C. 12585) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by striking “jobs or”;

(2) in subsection (c), by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (9) and inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

“(8) The extent to which the program generates the involvement of volunteers.”; and

(3) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (G), and redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (F) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively;

(B) in subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “section 122(c)” and inserting “section 122(d)”;

(C) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated), by adding “and” at the end; and

(D) in subparagraph (E) (as so redesignated), by striking “; and” and inserting a period.

SEC. 1310. DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANTS.

Section 137 (42 U.S.C. 12591) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (4)” and inserting “paragraph (3)”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “between the ages of 16 and 25” and inserting “a 16-year-old out of school youth or an individual between the ages of 17 and 25”; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking “(a)(5)” and inserting “(a)(4)”.

SEC. 1311. SELECTION OF NATIONAL SERVICE PARTICIPANTS.

Section 138 (42 U.S.C. 12592) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking “conducted by the State” and all that follows through “or other entity” and inserting “conducted by the entity”; and

(2) in subsection (e)(2)(C) by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, particularly those who were considered at the time of their service disadvantaged youth”.

SEC. 1312. TERMS OF SERVICE.

Section 139 (42 U.S.C. 12593) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “not less than 9 months and”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “during a period of—” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “during a period of not more than 2 years.”; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “as demonstrated by the participant” and inserting “as determined by the organization responsible for granting a release, if the participant has otherwise performed satisfactorily and has completed at least 15 percent of the original term of service”;

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “provide to the participant that portion of the national service educational award” and inserting “certify the participant’s eligibility for that portion of the national service educational award”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “to allow return to the program with which the individual was serving in order”.

SEC. 1313. ADJUSTMENTS TO LIVING ALLOWANCE.

Section 140 (42 U.S.C. 12594) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as (2);

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(3) FEDERAL WORK-STUDY STUDENTS.—The living allowance that may be provided to an individual whose term of service includes hours for which the individual receives Federal work study wages shall be reduced by the amount of the individual’s Federal work study award.”;

(E) in paragraph (4), by striking “a reduced term of service under section 139(b)(3)” and inserting “a term of service that is less than 12 months”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “shall include an amount sufficient to cover 85 percent of such taxes” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “may be used to pay such taxes.”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by adding “and” at the end;

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as (2);

(4) in subsection (d)(1), by striking the second sentence; and

(5) by striking subsections (g) and (h).

Subtitle D—Amendments to Subtitle D (National Service Trust and Provision of National Service Educational Awards)

SEC. 1401. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS IN THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST.

Section 145 (42 U.S.C. 12601) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “section 148(e)” and inserting “section 148(f)”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “pursuant to section 196(a)(2)” and inserting “pursuant to section 196(a)(2), if the terms of such donations direct that they be deposited in the National Service Trust”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “for payments of national service educational awards in accordance with section 148.” and inserting “for—

“(1) payments of summer of service educational awards and national service educational awards in accordance with section 148; and

“(2) payments of interest in accordance with section 148(f).”.

SEC. 1402. INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARD FROM THE TRUST.

Section 146 (42 U.S.C. 12602) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “if the individual” and inserting “if the organization responsible for an individual’s supervision certifies that the individual”;

(B) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and inserting the following:

“(1) met the applicable eligibility requirements for the position; and

“(2)(A) successfully completed the required term of service described in subsection (b) in an approved national service position; or

“(B)(i) satisfactorily performed prior to being granted a release for compelling personal circumstances under section 139(c); and

“(ii) served at least 15 percent of the required term of service described in subsection (b); and”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3);

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) **LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.**—An individual may not receive, in national service educational awards, more than an amount equal to the aggregate value of 2 such awards for full-time service. The aggregate value of summer of service educational awards that an individual receives shall have no effect on the aggregate value of national service educational awards the individual may receive.”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “or a summer of service educational award”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), and in subparagraph (A), by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “or a summer of service educational award”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A) by striking “or” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”;

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) in the case of a summer of service educational award, is enrolled at an eligible institution of higher education under section 148(c) or an educational institution described under section 148(a)(4) and failed to expend the full amount of that award during the original 7-year period.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) by inserting after “qualifying under this section” the following: “or under section 111(a)(5)”; and

(B) by inserting after “to receive a national service educational award” the following: “or a summer of service educational award”.

SEC. 1403. DETERMINATION OF THE AMOUNT OF NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.

Section 147(a) (42 U.S.C. 12603(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “a value, for each of not more than 2 of such terms of service, equal to 90 percent of—” and inserting “a value of—”; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

“(1) \$4,825, for fiscal year 2008;

“(2) \$4,925, for fiscal year 2009;

“(3) \$5,025, for fiscal year 2010;

“(4) \$5,125, for fiscal year 2011; and

“(5) \$5,225, for fiscal year 2012 and each fiscal year thereafter.”.

SEC. 1404. DISBURSEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.

Section 148 (42 U.S.C. 12604) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “cost of attendance” and inserting “cost of attendance or other educational expenses”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “and”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (6);

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) to pay expenses incurred in enrolling in an educational institution or training establishment that meets the requirements of chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code (38 U.S.C. 3451 et seq.);

“(5) for a recipient of a summer of service educational award under section 111(a)(5)(D), to pay expenses incurred in enrolling in a college preparatory program in accordance with subsection (e); and”;

(E) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) by striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection (f)”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1) by inserting after “the national service educational award of the individual” the following: “, or an eligible individual under section 111(a)(5) who received a summer of service educational award for a project that began after the individual completed grade 10 and desires to apply that summer of service educational award.”;

(3) in subsection (b)(2) by inserting after “the national service educational award” the following: “or the summer of service educational award, as applicable.”;

(4) in subsection (b)(5) by inserting after “the national service educational award” the following: “or the summer of service educational award, as applicable.”;

(5) in subsection (b)(7)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “, other than a loan to a parent of a student pursuant to section 428B of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1078–2); and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) any loan (other than a loan described in subparagraph (A) or (B)) determined by an institution of higher education to be necessary to cover a student’s educational expenses and made, insured, or guaranteed by—

“(i) an eligible lender, as defined in section 435 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1085);

“(ii) the direct student loan program under part D of title IV of such Act;

“(iii) a State agency; or

“(iv) a lender otherwise determined by the Corporation to be eligible to receive disbursements from the National Service Trust.”;

(6) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “, or an eligible individual under section 111(a)(5) who desires to apply the individual’s summer of service educational award.”;

(7) in subsection (c)(2)(A), by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “or summer of service educational award, as applicable.”;

(8) in subsection (c)(2)(C)(iii), by inserting after “national service educational awards received under this subtitle” the following: “or summer of service educational awards received under section 111(a)(5)”;

(9) in subsection (c)(3), by inserting after “national service educational awards” the following: “and summer of service educational awards”;

(10) in subsection (c)(5)—

(A) by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “, or summer of service educational award, as applicable.”; and

(B) by inserting after “additional” the following: “summer of service educational awards and additional”;

(11) in subsection (c)(6), by inserting after “national service educational award” the following: “and summer of service educational award”;

(12) in subsection (d), by inserting after “national service educational awards” the following: “and summer of service educational awards”;

(13) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), and (g) as (f), (g), and (h), respectively;

(14) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **USE OF SUMMER OF SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARD TO PAY COLLEGE PREPARATORY EXPENSES.**—

“(1) **APPLICATION OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**—An eligible individual under section 111(a)(5), or the parents or legal guardian of such an individual, who desires to apply the summer of service educational award of the individual to the payment of expenses incurred in enrolling in a college preparatory program shall, on a form prescribed by the Corporation, submit an application to the college preparatory program in which the individual will be enrolled that contains such information as the Corporation may require to verify the individual’s eligibility.

“(2) **SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT BY PROGRAM.**—A college preparatory program that receives one or more applications under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Corporation a statement, in a manner prescribed by the Corporation, that—

“(A) identifies each eligible individual filing an application under paragraph (1) for a disbursement of the individual’s summer of service educational award under this subsection;

“(B) specifies the amounts for which such eligible individuals are qualified for disbursement; and

“(C) certifies that—

“(i) the college preparatory program is operated by a for-profit or non-profit organization with a track record of success in implementing college preparatory programs that collaborate with local educational agencies and adequately prepare secondary school students for admission to an institution of higher education without need for remediation;

“(ii) the college preparatory program has been in existence for at least one year prior to an eligible individual’s submission of the application under paragraph (1); and

“(iii) individuals using summer of service educational awards received under section 111(a)(5) to pay the cost of enrolling in the college preparatory program do not comprise more than 15 percent of the total number of individuals enrolled in the program; and

“(D) contains such provisions concerning financial compliance and program quality as the Corporation may require.

“(3) **DISBURSEMENT OF PAYMENTS.**—Upon receipt of a statement from a college preparatory program that complies with paragraph (2), the Corporation shall, subject to paragraph (4), disburse the total amount of the summer of service educational awards for which eligible individuals who have submitted applications to that program under paragraph (1) are scheduled to receive. Such disbursement shall be made by check or other means that is payable to the program and requires the endorsement or other certification by the eligible individual.

“(4) **MULTIPLE DISBURSEMENTS.**—The total amount required to be disbursed to a college preparatory program under paragraph (3) for any period of enrollment may be disbursed by the Corporation in two or more installments consistent with appropriate divisions of such period of enrollment.

“(5) **REFUND RULES.**—The Corporation shall, by regulation, provide for the refund to the Corporation (and the crediting to the summer of service educational award of an eligible individual) of amounts disbursed to programs for the benefit of eligible individuals who withdraw or otherwise fail to complete the period of enrollment for which the assistance was provided. Amounts refunded to the Trust pursuant to this paragraph may be used by the Corporation to fund additional approved summer of service positions under section 111(a)(5).

“(6) MAXIMUM AWARD.—The portion of an eligible individual’s total available summer of service educational award that may be disbursed under this subsection for any period of enrollment shall not exceed the cost of attendance.”;

(15) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated), by striking “subsection (b)(6)” and inserting “subsection (b)(7)”; and

(16) in subsection (g) (as so redesignated), by striking “Director” and inserting “Chief Executive Officer”.

SEC. 1405. PROCESS OF APPROVAL OF NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title I (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 149. PROCESS OF APPROVAL OF NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

“(a) TIMING AND RECORDING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subtitles C and D, and any other provision of law, in approving a position as an approved national service position, the Corporation—

“(A) shall approve the position at the time the Corporation—

“(i) enters into an enforceable agreement with an individual participant to serve in a program carried out under subtitle E of title I of this Act or under title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4951 et seq.), or a summer of service educational award; or

“(ii) except as provided in clause (i), awards a grant to (or enters into a contract or cooperative agreement with) an entity to carry out a program for which such a position is approved under section 123; and

“(B) shall record as an obligation an estimate of the net present value of the national service educational award associated with the position, based on a formula that takes into consideration historical rates of enrollment in such a program, and of earning and using national service educational awards for such a program and remain available.

“(2) FORMULA.—In determining the formula described in paragraph (1)(B), the Corporation shall consult with the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

“(3) CERTIFICATION REPORT.—The Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation shall annually prepare and submit to Congress a report that contains a certification that the Corporation is in compliance with the requirements of paragraph (1).

“(4) APPROVAL.—The requirements of this subsection shall apply to each approved national service position that the Corporation approves—

“(A) during fiscal year 2008; and

“(B) during any subsequent fiscal year.

“(b) RESERVE ACCOUNT.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTENTS.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding subtitles C and D, and any other provision of law, within the National Service Trust established under section 145, the Corporation shall establish a reserve account.

“(B) CONTENTS.—To ensure the availability of adequate funds to support the awards of approved national service positions for each fiscal year, the Corporation shall place in the account—

“(i) during fiscal year 2008, a portion of the funds that were appropriated for fiscal year 2008 or a previous fiscal year under section 501(a)(2), were made available to carry out subtitle C, D, or E of this title, subtitle A of title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, or summer of service under section 111(a)(5), and remain available; and

“(ii) during fiscal year 2009 or a subsequent fiscal year, a portion of the funds that were appropriated for that fiscal year under section 501(a)(2) and were made available to carry out subtitle C, D, or E of this title, subtitle A of title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, or summer of service under section 111(a)(5), and remain available.

“(2) OBLIGATION.—The Corporation shall not obligate the funds in the reserve account until the Corporation—

“(A) determines that the funds will not be needed for the payment of national service educational awards associated with previously approved national service positions and summer of service educational awards; or

“(B) obligates the funds for the payment of national service educational awards for such previously approved national service positions or summer of service educational awards, as applicable.

“(c) AUDITS.—The accounts of the Corporation relating to the appropriated funds for approved national service positions, and the records demonstrating the manner in which the Corporation has recorded estimates described in subsection (a)(1)(B) as obligations, shall be audited annually by independent certified public accountants or independent licensed public accountants certified or licensed by a regulatory authority of a State or other political subdivision of the United States in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. A report containing the results of each such independent audit shall be included in the annual report required by subsection (a)(3).

“(d) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), all amounts included in the National Service Trust under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of section 145(a) shall be available for payments of national service educational awards or summer of service educational awards under section 148.”.

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 2 of the Strengthen AmeriCorps Program Act (Public Law 108–145; 117 Stat. 844; 42 U.S.C. 12605) is repealed.

Subtitle E—Amendments to Subtitle E (National Civilian Community Corps)

SEC. 1501. PURPOSE.

Section 151 (42 U.S.C. 12611) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 151. PURPOSE.

“It is the purpose of this subtitle to authorize the operation of, and support for, residential and other service programs that combine the best practices of civilian service with the best aspects of military service, including leadership and team building, to meet national and community needs. Such needs to be met under such programs include those related to—

“(1) natural and other disasters;

“(2) infrastructure improvement;

“(3) environmental stewardship and conservation;

“(4) energy conservation; and

“(5) urban and rural development.”.

SEC. 1502. PROGRAM COMPONENTS.

Section 152 (42 U.S.C. 12612) is amended—

(1) by amending the section heading to read as follows:

“SEC. 152. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS PROGRAM.”.

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Program”;

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Program”; and

(B) by striking “a Civilian Community Corps” and inserting “a National Civilian Community Corps”;

(4) in the heading of subsection (c), by striking “PROGRAMS” and inserting “COMPONENTS”; and

(5) in subsection (c), by striking “program components are residential programs” and all that follows and inserting “programs referred to in subsection (b) may include a residential component.”.

SEC. 1503. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.

Section 153 (42 U.S.C. 12613) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Program”; and

(B) by striking “on Civilian Community Corps” and inserting “on National Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “if the person” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “if the person will be at least 18 years of age on or before December 31 in the calendar year in which the individual enrolls in the program.”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “BACKGROUNDS” and inserting “BACKGROUND”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “The Director shall ensure that at least 50 percent of the participants in the program are disadvantaged youth by year 2010. The Director shall report to the Committee on Education and Labor in the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the United States Senate annually on progress towards this goal.”; and

(4) by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 1504. SUMMER NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM.

Section 154 (42 U.S.C. 12614) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program”; and

(B) by striking “on Civilian Community Corps” and inserting “on National Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “shall be” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “shall be from economically and ethnically diverse backgrounds, including youth who are in foster care.”.

SEC. 1505. TEAM LEADERS.

Section 155 (42 U.S.C. 12615) is amended—

(1) by amending the section heading to read as follows:

“SEC. 155. NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS.”;

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program”; and

(B) by striking “the Civilian Community Corps shall” and inserting “the National Civilian Community Corps shall”;

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by amending the subsection heading to read as follows:

“(b) MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS.—”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “superintendent” and inserting “campus director”; and

(ii) by striking “camp” and inserting “campus”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) TEAM LEADERS.—The Director may select from Corps members individuals with prior supervisory or service experience to be team leaders within units in the National Civilian Community Corps to perform service that includes leading and supervising teams of Corps members. Team leaders shall—

“(A) be selected without regard to the age limitation under section 153(b);

“(B) be members of the National Civilian Community Corps; and

“(C) be provided the rights and benefits applicable to Corps members, except that the limitation on the amount of living allowance shall not exceed 10 percent more than the amount established under section 158(b).”;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by amending the subsection heading to read as follows:

“(d) **CAMPUSES.**—”;
 (B) in paragraph (1)—
 (i) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows:

“(1) **UNITS TO BE ASSIGNED TO CAMPUSES.**—”;
 (ii) by striking “in camps” and inserting “in campuses”;

(iii) by striking “camp” and inserting “campus”;

(iv) by striking “in the camps” and inserting “in the campuses”;

(C) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) **CAMPUS DIRECTOR.**—There shall be a campus director for each campus. The campus director is the head of the campus.”;

(D) in paragraph (3)—
 (i) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows:

“(3) **ELIGIBLE SITE FOR CAMPUS.**—”;
 (ii) by striking “A camp may be located” and inserting “A campus must be cost-effective and may, upon the completion of a feasibility study, be located”;

(5) in subsection (e)—
 (A) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows:

“(e) **DISTRIBUTION OF UNITS AND CAMPUSES.**—”;

(B) by striking “camps are distributed” and inserting “campuses are cost-effective and are distributed”;

(C) by striking “rural areas” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “rural areas such that each Corps unit in a region can be easily deployed for disaster and emergency response to such region.”;

(6) in subsection (f)—
 (A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “superintendent” and inserting “campus director”;

(ii) by striking “camp” both places such term appears and inserting “campus”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—
 (i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “superintendent of a camp” and inserting “campus director of a campus”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—
 (I) by striking “superintendent” and inserting “campus director”;

(II) by striking “superintendent’s” and inserting “campus director’s”;

(III) by striking “camp” each place such term appears and inserting “campus”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “superintendent” and inserting “campus director”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “camp superintendent” and inserting “campus director”.

SEC. 1506. TRAINING.

Section 156 (42 U.S.C. 12616) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—
 (A) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(B) by adding at the end the following: “The Director shall ensure that to the extent practicable, each member of the Corps is trained in CPR, first aid, and other skills related to disaster preparedness and response.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, including a focus on energy conservation, environmental stewardship or conservation, infrastructure improvement, urban and rural development, or disaster preparedness needs.”;

(3) in subsection (c)(2), by adding at the end the following: “The Corporation may provide such training through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements with organizations who have established expertise in working with disadvantaged youth in similar programs.”.

SEC. 1507. CONSULTATION WITH STATE COMMISSIONS.

Section 157 (42 U.S.C. 12617) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—
 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “with specific emphasis on projects in support of infrastructure improvement, disaster relief and recovery, the environment, energy conservation and urban and rural development”;

(C) in paragraph (2) by striking “service learning” and inserting “service-learning”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development” and inserting “the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Chief of the United States Forest Service”;

(B) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by inserting “community-based organizations and” before “representatives of local communities”;

(ii) by striking “camp” both places such term appears and inserting “campus”;

(C) in paragraph (2), by inserting “State Commissions,” before “and persons involved in other youth service programs.”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “superintendent” both places such term appears and inserting “campus director”;

(ii) by striking “camp” both places such term appears and inserting “campus”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “camp superintendents” and inserting “campus directors”.

SEC. 1508. AUTHORIZED BENEFITS FOR CORPS MEMBERS.

Section 158 (42 U.S.C. 12618) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(ii) by inserting before the colon the following: “, as the Director determines appropriate”;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “Clothing” and inserting “Uniforms”;

(C) in paragraph (7), by striking “Recreational services and supplies” and inserting “Supplies”.

SEC. 1509. PERMANENT CADRE.

Section 159 (42 U.S.C. 12619) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Program”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “including those” before “recommended”;

(ii) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)(i), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “The Director shall establish a permanent cadre of” and inserting “The Chief Executive Officer shall establish a permanent cadre that includes the Director and other appointed”;

(II) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “The Director shall appoint the members” and inserting “The Chief Executive Officer shall consider the recommendations of the Director in appointing the other members”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “the Director” and inserting “the Chief Executive Officer”;

(iv) in subparagraph (E)—

(I) by inserting after “techniques” the following: “, including techniques for working with and enhancing the development of disadvantaged youth.”;

(II) by striking “service learning” and inserting “service-learning”;

(C) in the first sentence of paragraph (3), by striking “the members” and inserting “other members”.

SEC. 1510. CONTRACT AND GRANT AUTHORITY.

Section 161 (42 U.S.C. 12621) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “perform any program function under this subtitle” and inserting “carry out the National Civilian Community Corps program”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”.

SEC. 1511. OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

Section 162 (42 U.S.C. 12622) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “the registry established by” and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting “the registry established by section 1143a of title 10, United States Code”;

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “to be recommended for appointment” and inserting “from which individuals may be selected for appointment by the Director”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 1512. ADVISORY BOARD.

Section 163 (42 U.S.C. 12623) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Upon the establishment of the Program, there shall also be” and inserting “There shall be”;

(B) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps Advisory Board”;

(C) by striking “to assist” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “to assist the Corps in responding rapidly and efficiently in times of natural and other disasters. Consistent with the needs outlined in section 151, the Advisory Board members shall help coordinate activities with the Corps as appropriate, including the mobilization of volunteers and coordination of volunteer centers to help local communities recover from the effects of natural and other disasters.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively;

(B) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

“(8) The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

“(9) The Secretary of Transportation.

“(10) The Chief of the United States Forest Service.

“(11) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

“(12) The Secretary of Energy.”;

(C) in paragraph (13), as so redesignated, by striking “industry,” and inserting “public and private organizations.”.

SEC. 1513. ANNUAL EVALUATION.

Section 164 (42 U.S.C. 12624) is amended—

(1) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(2) by adding at the end the following: “Upon completing each such evaluation, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives a report on the evaluation.”.

SEC. 1514. REPEAL OF FUNDING LIMITATION.

Section 165 (42 U.S.C. 12625) is repealed.

SEC. 1515. DEFINITIONS.

Section 166 (42 U.S.C. 12626) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (2), (3), and (9);
 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (8) as paragraphs (5) through (9), respectively;
 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) **CAMPUS DIRECTOR.**—The term ‘campus director’, with respect to a Corps campus, means the head of the campus under section 155(d).”

“(3) **CORPS.**—The term ‘Corps’ means the National Civilian Community Corps required under section 155 as part of the Civilian Community Corps Program.”

“(4) **CORPS CAMPUS.**—The term ‘Corps campus’ means the facility or central location established as the operational headquarters and boarding place for particular Corps units.”;

(4) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated), by striking “Civilian Community Corps Demonstration Program” and inserting “National Civilian Community Corps Program”;

(5) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”;

(6) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated), by striking “The terms” and all that follows through “Demonstration Program” and inserting “The term ‘Program’ means the National Civilian Community Corps Program”; and

(7) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the heading by striking “SERVICE LEARNING” and inserting “SERVICE-LEARNING”; and

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking “service learning” and inserting “service-learning”.

SEC. 1516. TERMINOLOGY.

Subtitle E of title I (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking the subtitle heading and inserting the following:

“Subtitle E—National Civilian Community Corps; and

(2) in section 160(a) (42 U.S.C. 12620(a)) by inserting “National” before “Civilian Community Corps”.

Subtitle F—Amendments to Subtitle F (Administrative Provisions)

SEC. 1601. FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE.

Section 171(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 12631(a)(1)) is amended by striking “with respect to a project” and inserting “with respect to a project authorized under the national service laws”.

SEC. 1602. ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.

Section 174 (42 U.S.C. 12634) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **REFERRALS FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.**—A program may not receive assistance under the national service laws for the sole purpose of referring individuals to Federal assistance programs or State assistance programs funded in part by the Federal government.”.

SEC. 1603. NOTICE, HEARING, AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES.

Section 176 (42 U.S.C. 12636) is amended—

(1) by striking “this title” each place it appears and inserting “the national service laws”;

(2) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by striking “30 days” and inserting “1 or more periods of 30 days not to exceed 90 days in total”; and

(3) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “A State or local applicant” and inserting “An entity”; and

(B) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and”;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) in a grievance filed by an individual applicant or participant—

“(i) the applicant’s selection or the participant’s reinstatement, as the case may be; and

“(ii) other changes in the terms and conditions of service; and”.

SEC. 1604. RESOLUTION OF DISPLACEMENT COMPLAINTS.

Section 177 (42 U.S.C. 12637) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a) and (b), by striking “under this title” each place it appears and inserting “under the national service laws”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “employee or position” and inserting “employee, position, or volunteer (other than a participant under the national service laws)”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Programs that receive assistance under the national service laws shall consult with the parents or legal guardians of children in developing and operating programs that include and serve children.

“(2) **PARENTAL PERMISSION.**—Programs that receive assistance under the national service laws shall, consistent with State law, before transporting minor children, provide the reason for and obtain written permission of the children’s parents.”.

SEC. 1605. STATE COMMISSIONS ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Section 178 (42 U.S.C. 12638) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by adding at the end the following:

“(J) A representative of the volunteer sector.”;

(2) in subsection (c)(3), by striking “, unless the State permits the representative to serve as a voting member of the State Commission or alternative administrative entity”; and

(3) by striking subsection (e)(1) and inserting the following:

“(1) Preparation of a national service plan for the State that—

“(A) is developed through an open and public process (such as through regional forums, hearings, and other means) that provides for maximum participation and input from companies, organizations, and public agencies using service and volunteerism as a strategy to meet critical community needs, including programs funded under the national service laws;

“(B) covers a 3-year period, the beginning of which may be set by the State;

“(C) is subject to approval by the chief executive officer of the State;

“(D) includes measurable goals and outcomes for the State consistent with those for national service programs as described in section 179(a)(1)(A);

“(E) ensures outreach to diverse community-based agencies that serve underrepresented populations, by—

“(i) using established networks and registries at the State level, or establishing such networks and registries; and

“(ii) coordinating with the Corporation’s Office of Outreach and Recruitment;

“(F) provides for effective coordination of funding applications submitted by the State and others within the State under the national service laws;

“(G) is updated annually, reflecting changes in practices and policies that will improve the coordination and effectiveness of Federal, State, and local resources for service and volunteerism within the State; and

“(H) contains such information as the State Commission considers to be appropriate or as the Corporation may require.”;

(4) by redesignating subsections (f) through (j) as subsections (g) through (k), respectively;

(5) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) **RELIEF FROM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.**—Upon approval of a State plan submitted under subsection (e)(1), the Chief Executive Officer may waive, or specify alternatives to, administrative requirements (other than statutory provisions) otherwise applicable to grants made to States under the national service laws, including those requirements identified by a State as impeding the coordination and effectiveness of Federal, State, and local resources for service and volunteerism within a State.”;

(6) in subsection (j)(1) (as redesignated by this section), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, consistent with section 174(d).”; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(1) **STATE PLAN FOR BABY BOOMER AND OLDER ADULT VOLUNTEER AND PAID SERVICE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, to be eligible to receive a grant or allotment under subtitle B or C or to receive a distribution of approved national service positions under subtitle C, a State must work with appropriate State agencies and private entities to develop a comprehensive State plan for volunteer and paid service by members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults.

“(2) **MATTERS INCLUDED.**—The State plan shall include—

“(A) recommendations for public policy initiatives, including how to best tap the population of members the Baby Boom generation and older adults as sources of social capital and as ways to address community needs;

“(B) recommendations to the State unit on aging on—

“(i) a marketing outreach plan to businesses;

“(ii) outreach to non-profit organizations;

“(iii) the State’s Department of Education; and

“(iv) other State agencies; and

“(C) recommendations for civic engagement and multigenerational activities, such as—

“(i) early childhood education, family literacy, and after school programs;

“(ii) respite services for older adults and caregivers; and

“(iii) transitions for members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults to purposeful work in their post career lives.

“(3) **KNOWLEDGE INCORPORATED.**—The State plan shall incorporate the current knowledge base regarding—

“(A) the economic impact of older workers’ roles in the economy;

“(B) the social impact of older workers’ roles in the community; and

“(C) the health and social benefits of active engagement for members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults.

“(4) **PUBLICATION.**—The State plan must be made public and be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer.”.

SEC. 1606. EVALUATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Section 179 (42 U.S.C. 12639) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Corporation shall provide, directly or through grants or contracts, for the continuing evaluation of programs that receive assistance under the national service laws, including evaluations that measure the impact of such programs, to determine—

“(1) the effectiveness of various programs receiving assistance under the national service laws in achieving stated goals and the costs associated with such, including—

“(A) an evaluation of performance measures, as established by the Corporation in consultation with grantees receiving assistance under the national service laws, which may include—

“(i) number of participants enrolled and completing terms of service compared to the stated goals of the program;

“(ii) number of volunteers recruited from the community in which the program was implemented;

“(iii) if applicable based on the program design, the number of individuals receiving or benefiting from the service conducted;

“(iv) number of disadvantaged and underrepresented youth participants;

“(v) sustainability of project or program, including measures to ascertain the level of community support for the project or program;

“(vi) measures to ascertain the change in attitude toward civic engagement among the participants and the beneficiaries of the service; and

“(vii) other quantitative and qualitative measures as determined to be appropriate by the recipient of assistance; and

“(B) review of the implementation plan for reaching such measures described in subparagraph (A); and

“(2) the effectiveness of the structure and mechanisms for delivery of services, such as the effective utilization of the participants’ time, the management of the participants, and the ease to which recipients were able to receive services to maximize the cost-effectiveness of the program and its impact, for such programs.”;

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “National Senior Volunteer Corps” and inserting “National Senior Service Corps”; and

(B) in paragraph (9), by striking “to public service” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “to engage in service that benefits the community.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(j) **RESERVED PROGRAM FUNDS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY.**—In addition to amounts appropriated to carry out this section, the Corporation may reserve up to 1 percent of total program funds appropriated for a fiscal year under the national service laws to support program accountability activities.

“(k) **CORRECTIVE PLANS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A grantee that fails to reach the performance measures in subsection (a)(1)(A) as determined by the Corporation, shall reach an agreement with the Corporation on a corrective action plan to achieve the agreed upon performance measures.

“(2) **ASSISTANCE.**—

“(A) **NEW PROGRAM.**—For a program that has received assistance for less than 3 years and is failing to achieve the performance measures agreed upon under subsection (a)(1)(A), the Corporation shall—

“(i) provide technical assistance to the grantee to address targeted performance problems relating to the performance measures in subsection (a)(1)(A); and

“(ii) require quarterly reports from the grantee on the program’s progress toward achieving the performance measures in subsection (a)(1)(A) to the appropriate State, Territory, or Indian tribe and the Corporation.

“(B) **ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS.**—For a program that has received assistance for 3 years or more and is failing to achieve the performance measures agreed upon under subsection (a)(1)(A), the Corporation shall require quarterly reports from the grantee on the program’s progress towards achieving performance measures in subsection (a)(1)(A) to the appropriate State, Territory, or Indian tribe and the Corporation.

“(l) **FAILURE TO MEET PERFORMANCE LEVELS.**—If, after a period for correction as approved by the Corporation, a grantee or subgrantee fails to achieve the established levels of performance, the Corporation shall—

“(1) reduce the annual amount of the grant award attributable to the underperforming grantee or subgrantee by at least 25 percent; or

“(2) terminate assistance to the underperforming grantee or subgrantee, consistent with section 176(a).

“(m) **REPORTS.**—The Corporation shall submit to Congress not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, a report containing information on the number of—

“(1) grantees implementing corrective action plans;

“(2) grantees for which the Corporation offers technical assistance under subsection (k);

“(3) grantees for which the Corporation terminates assistance for a program under subsection (l); and

“(4) grantees meeting or exceeding their performance measures in subsection (a).”.

SEC. 1607. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.

Section 181 (42 U.S.C. 12641) is amended by striking “Section 414” and inserting “Section 422”.

SEC. 1608. PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS.

Section 182(b) (42 U.S.C. 12642(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—On an annual basis, the head of each Federal agency and department shall prepare and submit, to Congress and the committees of jurisdiction, a report concerning the implementation of this section, including an evaluation of the performance goals and benchmarks of the partnership programs.”.

SEC. 1609. RIGHTS OF ACCESS, EXAMINATION, AND COPYING.

Section 183 (42 U.S.C. 12643) is amended—

(1) in each of subsections (a)(1) and (b)(1) by inserting after “local government,” the following: “Territory,”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) **INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—The Inspector General of the Corporation shall have access to, and the right to examine and copy, any books, documents, papers, records, and other recorded information in any form—

“(1) within the possession or control of the Corporation or any State or local government, Territory, Indian tribe, or public or private nonprofit organization receiving assistance directly or indirectly under this Act; and

“(2) that relates to the duties of the Inspector General under the Inspector General Act of 1978.”.

SEC. 1610. ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

Subtitle F of title I (42 U.S.C. 12631 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 185. CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—To promote efficiency and eliminate duplicative requirements, the Corporation shall consolidate or modify application procedures and reporting requirements for programs and activities funded under the national service laws.

“(b) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and annually thereafter, the Corporation shall submit to Congress a report containing information on the actions taken to modify the application procedures and reporting requirements for programs and activities funded under the national service laws, including a description of the consultation procedures with grantees, entities that expressed interest in applying for assistance under a national service law but did not apply, those entities whose application was rejected, and applications whose assistance was terminated due to failure to meet performance measures for the year covered by the report.

“SEC. 186. SUSTAINABILITY.

“(a) **GOALS.**—To ensure that recipients of assistance under the national service laws are carrying out sustainable projects or programs, the Corporation, after collaboration with State Commissions and consultation with recipients of assistance under the national service laws, may set sustainability goals supported by policies and procedures to—

“(1) build the capacity of the projects that receive assistance under the national service laws to meet community needs and to work to lessen the dependence on Federal dollars to do so;

“(2) provide technical assistance to assist the recipients of assistance under the national service laws in acquiring non-Federal funds for the projects that could replace assistance received under the national service laws; and

“(3) implement measures to ascertain whether the projects are generating sufficient community support.

“(b) **ENFORCEMENT.**—If a recipient does not meet the sustainability goals in subsection (a) for a project, the Corporation may take action as described in sections 176 and 179.

“SEC. 187. USE OF RECOVERED FUNDS.

“(a) **FACTORS CONSIDERED IN APPROVING REPAYMENT.**—After the date of enactment of this section, whenever the Corporation recovers funds paid to a recipient under a grant or cooperative agreement made under the national service laws because the recipient made an expendi-

ture of funds that was not allowable, or otherwise failed to discharge its responsibility to account properly for funds, the Corporation may consider those funds to be additional funds available and may arrange to repay to the recipient affected by that action an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the recovered funds if the Corporation determines that—

“(1) the practices or procedures of the recipient that resulted in the recovery of funds have been corrected, and that the recipient is in all other respects in compliance with the requirements of the grant or cooperative agreement, if the recipient was notified of any noncompliance with such requirements and given a reasonable period of time to remedy such noncompliance;

“(2) the recipient has submitted to the Corporation a plan for the use of those funds consistent with the national service laws and, to the extent possible, for the benefit of the community affected by the recovery of funds; and

“(3) the use of those funds in accordance with that plan would serve to achieve the objectives of the grant or cooperative agreement under which the funds were originally paid.

“(b) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REPAYMENT.**—Any payments by the Corporation under this section shall be subject to other terms and conditions as the Corporation considers necessary to accomplish the purposes of the grant or cooperative agreement, including—

“(1) the submission of periodic reports on the use of funds provided under this section; and

“(2) consultation by the recipient with members of the community that will benefit from the payments.

“(c) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the funds made available under this section shall remain available for expenditure for a period of time considered reasonable by the Corporation, but in no case to exceed more than 3 fiscal years following the later of—

“(1) the fiscal year in which final agency action regarding the disallowance of funds is taken; or

“(2) if such recipient files a petition for judicial review regarding the disallowance of funds, the fiscal year in which final judicial action is taken on such a petition.

“(d) **PUBLICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER.**—At least 60 days prior to entering into an arrangement under this section, the Corporation shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of intent to enter into such an arrangement and the terms and conditions under which payments will be made. Interested persons shall have an opportunity for at least 30 days to submit comments to the Corporation regarding the proposed arrangement.

“SEC. 188. EXPENSES OF ATTENDING MEETINGS.

“Notwithstanding section 1345 of title 31, United States Code, funds authorized under the national service laws shall be available for expenses of attendance of meetings that are concerned with the functions or activities for which the funds are appropriated or which will contribute to improved conduct, supervision, or management of those functions or activities.

“SEC. 189. GRANT PERIODS.

“Unless otherwise specifically provided, the Corporation has authority to make a grant under the national service laws for a period of 3 years.

“SEC. 189A. GENERATION OF VOLUNTEERS.

“In making decisions on applications for assistance or approved national service positions under the national service laws, the Corporation shall take into consideration the extent to which the applicant’s proposal will increase the involvement of volunteers in meeting community needs.

“SEC. 189B. LIMITATION ON PROGRAM GRANT COSTS.

“(a) **LIMITATION ON GRANT AMOUNTS.**—Except as otherwise provided by this section, the amount of funds approved by the Corporation in

a grant to operate a program authorized under the national service laws supporting individuals serving in approved national service positions may not exceed \$16,000 per full-time equivalent position.

“(b) **COSTS SUBJECT TO LIMITATION.**—The limitation in subsection (a) applies to the Corporation’s share of member support costs, staff costs, and other costs borne by the grantee or subgrantee to operate a program.

“(c) **COSTS NOT SUBJECT TO LIMITATION.**—The limitation in subsection (a) and (e)(1) shall not apply to expenses that are not included in the program operating grant award.

“(d) **ADJUSTMENTS FOR INFLATION.**—The amount specified in subsections (a) and (e)(1) shall be adjusted each year after 2008 for inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Secretary of Labor.

“(e) **WAIVER AUTHORITY AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—

“(1) **WAIVER.**—The Chief Executive Officer may waive the requirements of this section, up to a maximum of \$18,000, if necessary to meet the compelling needs of a particular program, such as exceptional training needs for a program serving disadvantaged youth, increased costs relating to the participation of individuals with disabilities, and start-up costs associated with a first-time grantee.

“(2) **REPORTS.**—The Chief Executive Officer shall report to Congress annually on all waivers granted under this section, with an explanation of the compelling needs justifying such waivers.

“SEC. 189C. AUDITS AND REPORTS.

“The Corporation shall comply with applicable audit and reporting requirements as provided in the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990 (31 U.S.C. 501 et seq.) and the Government Corporation Control Act of 1945 (31 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.). The Corporation shall report to the Congress any failure to comply with the requirements of such audits.”.

Subtitle G—Amendments to Subtitle G (Corporation for National and Community Service)

SEC. 1701. TERMS OF OFFICE.

Section 192 (42 U.S.C. 12651a) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) **TERMS.**—Subject to subsection (e), each appointed member shall serve for a term of 5 years.”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **SERVICE UNTIL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR.**—A voting member of the Board whose term has expired may continue to serve for one year beyond expiration of the term if no successor is appointed or until the date on which a successor has taken office.”.

SEC. 1702. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES.

Section 192A(g) (42 U.S.C. 12651b(g)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking “shall—” and inserting “shall have responsibility for setting overall policy for the Corporation and shall—”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, and review the budget proposal in advance of submission to the Office of Management and Budget and to Congress”;

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A) by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “and” at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) review the performance of the Chief Executive Officer annually and forward a report on that review to the President.”;

(4) in paragraph (9), by inserting “and” after “Corporation.”;

(5) in paragraph (10), by striking “program; and” and inserting “program under a cost share

agreement, as determined by the Corporation, in which the funds advanced or received as reimbursement shall be credited directly to a current appropriation; and”;

(6) in paragraph (11), by striking “September 30, 1995” and inserting “January 1, 2011”.

SEC. 1703. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

Section 193A (42 U.S.C. 12651d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after “a strategic plan” the following: “, including a plan for achieving 50 percent full-time approved national service positions by 2010.”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (11) as paragraphs (8) through (12), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

“(7) prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and Labor in the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the United States Senate, and the Board an annual report on actions taken to achieve the goal of 50 percent full-time approved national service positions as described in paragraph (1), including an assessment of the progress made toward achieving that goal and the actions to be taken in the coming year toward achieving that goal.”; and

(D) in paragraph (11) (as so redesignated)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “June 30, 1995,” and inserting “June 30 of each even-numbered year.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “section 122(c)(1)” and inserting “section 122(d)(1)”;

and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (9), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

“(10) obtain the opinions of peer reviewers in evaluating applications to the Corporation for assistance under this title; and”.

SEC. 1704. NONVOTING MEMBERS; PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS.

Section 195 (42 U.S.C. 12651f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting after “subdivision of a State,” the following: “Territory.”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “MEMBER” and inserting “NON-VOTING MEMBER”; and

(ii) by inserting “non-voting” before “member”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) **PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS.**—The Corporation may enter into personal services contracts to carry out research, evaluation, and public awareness related to the national service laws.”.

SEC. 1705. DONATED SERVICES.

Section 196(a) (42 U.S.C. 12651g(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) **ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.**—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Corporation may solicit and accept the services of organizations and individuals (other than participants) to assist the Corporation in carrying out the duties of the Corporation under the national service laws, and may provide to such individuals the travel expenses described in section 192A(d).”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “Such a volunteer” and inserting “A person who is a member of an organization or is an individual covered by subparagraph (A)”;

(ii) in clause (i), by striking “a volunteer” and inserting “such a person”;

(iii) in clause (ii), by striking “volunteers” and inserting “such a person”;

(iv) in clause (iii), by striking “such a volunteer” and inserting “such a person”;

(C) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “Such a volunteer” and inserting “Such a person”;

and

(2) by striking paragraph (3).

SEC. 1706. OFFICE OF OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT.

Subtitle G of title I is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 196B. OFFICE OF OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT.

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Corporation an office to be known as the Office of Outreach and Recruitment (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’), headed by a Director.

“(b) **DUTIES.**—The duties of the Office, carried out directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, shall be—

“(1) to increase the public awareness of the wide range of service opportunities for citizens of all ages, regardless of socioeconomic status or geographic location, through a variety of methods, including—

“(A) print media;

“(B) the Internet and related emerging technologies;

“(C) television;

“(D) radio;

“(E) presentations at public or private forums;

“(F) other innovative methods of communication; and

“(G) outreach to offices of economic development, State employment security agencies, labor unions and trade associations, local education agencies, agencies and organizations serving veterans and people with disabilities, and other institutions or organizations from which participants for programs receiving assistance from the national service laws can be recruited;

“(2) to identify and implement methods of recruitment to increase the diversity of participants in the programs receiving assistance under the national service laws;

“(3) to identify and implement recruitment strategies and training programs for bilingual volunteers in the National Senior Service Corps under title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973;

“(4) to identify and implement methods of recruitment to increase the diversity of service sponsors of programs desiring to receive assistance under the national service laws;

“(5) to collaborate with organizations which have established volunteer recruitment programs, including those on the Internet, to increase the recruitment capacity of the Corporation;

“(6) where practicable, to provide application materials in languages other than English for those with limited English proficiency who wish to participate in a national service program;

“(7) to coordinate with organizations of former participants of national service programs for service opportunities that may include capacity building, outreach, and recruitment for programs receiving assistance under the national service laws;

“(8) to collaborate with the training and technical assistance programs described in subtitle J and in appropriate paragraphs of section 198E(b);

“(9) to coordinate the clearinghouses described in section 198E; and

“(10) to coordinate with entities receiving funds under section 198E(b)(11) in establishing the Reserve Corps for alumni of the national service programs to serve in emergencies, disasters, and other times of national need.

“(c) **COLLABORATION.**—The duties described in subsection (b) shall be carried out in collaboration with the State Commissions.

“(d) **AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT WITH A BUSINESS.**—The Corporation may, through contracts

or cooperative agreements, carry out the marketing duties described in subsection (b)(1), with priority given to those entities who have established expertise in the recruitment of disadvantaged youth, members of Indian tribes, and members of the Baby Boom generation.

“(e) CAMPAIGN TO SOLICIT FUNDS.—The Corporation, through the Director of the Office, may conduct a campaign to solicit funds for itself to conduct outreach and recruitment campaigns to recruit a diverse population of service sponsors of and participants in programs and projects receiving assistance under the national service laws.

“(f) REPORTING.—The Director of the Office shall complete a report annually to the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Directors on its activities and results.”.

SEC. 1707. STUDY TO EXAMINE AND INCREASE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS AND VETERANS PARTICIPATION IN SERVICE CORPS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TO DEVELOP PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) PLANNING STUDY.—The Corporation for National and Community Service shall conduct a study to identify—

- (1) specific areas of need for veterans;
- (2) how existing programs and activities carried out under the national service laws could better serve veterans and veterans service organizations;
- (3) gaps in service to veterans;
- (4) prospects for better coordination of services;
- (5) prospects for better utilization of veterans as resources and volunteers; and
- (6) methods for ensuring the efficient financial organization of services directed towards veterans.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The study shall be carried out in consultation with veterans' service organizations, the Department of Veterans Affairs, State veterans agencies, the Department of Defense, and other individuals and entities the Corporation considers appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the planning study required by subsection (a), together with a plan for implementation of a pilot program using promising strategies and approaches for better targeting and serving veterans.

(d) PILOT PROGRAM.—From amounts made available to carry out this subsection, the Corporation shall develop and carry out a pilot program based on the findings in the report submitted under subsection (c).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

Subtitle H—Amendments to Subtitle H

SEC. 1801. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO SUBTITLE H.

(a) ADDITIONAL CORPORATION ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL SERVICE.—Subtitle H is amended by inserting after the subtitle heading and before section 198 the following:

“PART I—ADDITIONAL CORPORATION ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL SERVICE”.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 198 (42 U.S.C. 12653) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection (r)” and inserting “subsection (g)”;
- (2) in subsection (b), by striking “national service programs, including service-learning programs, and to support innovative and model programs, including” and inserting “service-learning programs and national service programs, including”;
- (3) by striking subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f);
- (4) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (c);
- (5) by striking subsections (h), (i), and (j);

(6) by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (d);

(7) by striking subsections (l) and (m);

(8) by redesignating subsections (n) and (o) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

(9) by striking subsections (p) and (q);

(10) by redesignating subsection (r) as subsection (g); and

(11) by redesignating subsection (s) as subsection (h).

SEC. 1802. REPEALS.

The following provisions are repealed:

(1) CLEARINGHOUSES.—Section 198A (42 U.S.C. 12653a).

(2) MILITARY INSTALLATION CONVERSION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.—Section 198C (42 U.S.C. 12653c).

(3) SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—Section 198D (42 U.S.C. 12653d).

SEC. 1803. INNOVATIVE AND MODEL PROGRAM SUPPORT.

Subtitle H is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART II—INNOVATIVE AND MODEL PROGRAM SUPPORT

“SEC. 198D. INNOVATIVE AND MODEL PROGRAM SUPPORT.

“(a) METHODS OF CONDUCTING ACTIVITIES.—The Corporation may, through grants and fixed amount grants under subsection (c), carry out the following programs:

“(1) PROGRAMS FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH.—A program selected from among those listed in 122(a) where no less than 75 percent of the participants are disadvantaged youth.

“(A) COMPONENTS OF PROGRAMS.—Such programs may include life skills training, employment training, educational counseling, program to complete a high-school diploma or GED, counseling, or a mentoring relationship with an adult volunteer.

“(B) PRIORITY.—Priority shall be given to programs that engage retirees to serve as mentors.

“(2) PROGRAMS FOCUSED ON LEARNING AND THINKING SKILLS.—Service programs to solve community problems while engaging or developing 21st century learning and thinking skills (critical-thinking and problem solving, communication skills, creativity and innovation skills, collaboration skills, contextual learning skills, information and media literacy skills, and information and communications literacy) and life skills (leadership, ethics, accountability, adaptability, personal productivity, personal responsibility, people skills, self-direction, and social responsibility) for school-age youth and low income adults. This may be a summer of service program or a year-round service program. Priority shall be given to programs that collaborate with the RSVP program, the AmeriCorps programs, or the Learn and Serve programs.

“(3) PROGRAMS THAT ENGAGE YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 17.—Programs that engage youth under the age of 17 in service to the community to meet unmet human, educational, environmental, emergency and disaster preparedness, or public safety needs and may be a summer program or a year-round program. Priority shall be given to programs that collaborate with the RSVP Program and the AmeriCorps programs.

“(4) PROGRAMS THAT FOCUS ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS.—Service programs that focus on the health and wellness of the members of a low-income or rural community. Priority shall be given to service programs that work to—

“(A) involve the community in service to those who are at-risk to not receive or pursue health care through such activities as health and wellness education, prevention, and care;

“(B) include in the service program employment training, where applicable, for participants in the program and may extend this opportunity to members of the community; and

“(C) collaborate with local institutions of higher education to include, as a portion of the pre-professional training of health care profes-

sionals including nurses, doctors, physician assistants, dentists, and emergency medical technicians, a service component to meet unmet healthcare and wellness needs in the community in which the service program is being carried out.

“(5) PROGRAMS THAT REDUCE RECIDIVISM.—Programs that re-engage court-involved youth and adults with the goal of reducing recidivism. Priority shall be given to such programs that create support systems beginning in corrections facilities, and programs that have life skills training, employment training, an education program, including a program to complete a high-school diploma or GED, educational and career counseling, post program placement, and support services, which could begin in corrections facilities. The program may include health and wellness programs, including but not limited to drug and alcohol treatment, mental health counseling, and smoking cessation.

“(6) PROGRAMS THAT RECRUIT CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—Demonstration projects for programs that have as one of their primary purposes the recruitment and acceptance of court-involved youth and adults as participants, volunteers, or members. Such a program may serve any purpose otherwise permitted under this Act.

“(7) OTHER INNOVATIVE AND MODEL PROGRAMS.—Any other innovative and model programs that the Corporation considers appropriate.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) THREE-YEAR TERM.—Each program funded under this part shall be carried out over a period of three years, including one planning year and two additional grant years, with a 1-year extension possible, if the program meets performance measures developed in accordance with section 179(a) and any other criteria determined by the Corporation.

“(2) ENCOURAGEMENT.—Each program funded under this part is encouraged to collaborate with Learn and Serve, AmeriCorps, VISTA, and the National Senior Service Corps.

“(3) EVALUATION.—Upon completion of the program, the Corporation shall conduct an independent evaluation of the program and widely disseminate the results to the service community through multiple channels, including the Corporation's Resource Center or a clearinghouse of effective strategies and recommendations for improvement.

“(c) FIXED AMOUNT GRANTS.—

“(1) GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), and subject to the limitations in this subsection, the Corporation may, upon making a determination described in paragraph (2), approve a fixed amount grant that is not subject to the Office of Management and Budget cost principles and related financial recordkeeping requirements.

“(2) DETERMINATION.—Before approving a fixed amount grant, the Corporation must determine that—

“(A) the reasonable and necessary costs of carrying out the terms of the grant significantly exceed the amount of assistance provided by the Corporation; or

“(B) based on the nature or design of the grant, any assistance provided by the Corporation can be reasonably presumed to be expended on reasonable and necessary costs.

“(3) MATCHING FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which a grant is made under this part may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program.

“(B) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—In providing for the remaining share of the cost of carrying out such a program, each recipient of a grant under this part—

“(i) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services; and

“(ii) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services.

“(d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to carry out a program under this part, an entity shall prepare, submit to the Corporation, and obtain approval of, an application at such time and in such manner as the Corporation requires, and in such manner as the Chief Executive Officer may reasonably require.”.

SEC. 1804. CLEARINGHOUSES.

Subtitle H is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART III—NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS CLEARINGHOUSE

“SEC. 198E. NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS CLEARINGHOUSE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall provide assistance, either by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, to entities with expertise in the dissemination of information through clearinghouses to establish one or more clearinghouses for the national service laws.

“(b) FUNCTION OF CLEARINGHOUSE.—Such a clearinghouse may—

“(1) assist entities carrying out State or local service-learning and national service programs with needs assessments and planning;

“(2) conduct research and evaluations concerning service-learning or programs receiving assistance under the national service laws unless the recipient is receiving funds for such purpose under part III of subtitle B and under subtitle H;

“(3)(A) provide leadership development and training to State and local service-learning program administrators, supervisors, service sponsors, and participants; and

“(B) provide training to persons who can provide the leadership development and training described in subparagraph (A);

“(4) facilitate communication among entities carrying out service-learning programs and programs offered under the national service laws and participants in such programs;

“(5) provide and disseminate information and curriculum materials relating to planning and operating service-learning programs and programs offered under the national service laws, to States, Territories, Indian tribes, and local entities eligible to receive financial assistance under the national service laws;

“(6) provide and disseminate information regarding methods to make service-learning programs and programs offered under the national service laws accessible to individuals with disabilities;

“(7) disseminate applications in languages other than English;

“(8)(A) gather and disseminate information on successful service-learning programs and programs offered under the national service laws, components of such successful programs, innovative curricula related to service-learning, and service-learning projects; and

“(B) coordinate the activities of the Clearinghouse with appropriate entities to avoid duplication of effort;

“(9) make recommendations to State and local entities on quality controls to improve the quality of service-learning programs and programs offered under the national service laws;

“(10) assist organizations in recruiting, screening, and placing a diverse population of service-learning coordinators and program sponsors;

“(11) collaborate with the Office of Outreach and Recruitment on an alumni network for those former participants in an approved national service position, to facilitate communication and collaboration between alumni and to leverage their skills, knowledge, and experiences to improve service across our Nation and also serve in a Reserve Corps, who are ready to serve in times of national need;

“(12) disseminate effective strategies for working with disadvantaged youth in national service programs as determined by organizations with an established expertise working with such youth; and

“(13) carry out such other activities as the Chief Executive Officer determines to be appropriate.”.

Subtitle I—American Conservation and Youth Service Corps

SEC. 1811. STATE APPLICATION.

Section 199C(a) (42 U.S.C. 12655b(a)) is amended by inserting after “a State” the following: “, Territory,”.

Subtitle J—Training and Technical Assistance

SEC. 1821. TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Title I is further amended by adding at the end the following new subtitle:

“Subtitle J—Training and Technical Assistance

“SEC. 199N. TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall conduct, either directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, including through State Commissions on National and Community Service, appropriate training and technical assistance to—

“(1) programs receiving assistance under the national service laws; and

“(2) entities (particularly those in rural areas and underserved communities)—

“(A) that desire to carry out or establish national service programs;

“(B) that desire to apply for assistance under the national service laws; or

“(C) that desire to apply for a subgrant under the national service laws.

“(b) ACTIVITIES INCLUDED.—Such training and technical assistance activities may include—

“(1) providing technical assistance to those applying to carry out national service programs or those carrying out national service programs;

“(2) promoting leadership development in national service programs;

“(3) improving the instructional and programmatic quality of national service programs;

“(4) developing the management and budgetary skills of those operating or overseeing national service programs, including to increase the cost effectiveness of the programs under the national service laws;

“(5) providing for or improving the training provided to the participants in programs under the national service laws;

“(6) facilitating the education of national service programs in risk management procedures, including the training of participants in appropriate risk management practices;

“(7) training of those operating or overseeing national service programs in volunteer recruitment, management, and retention to improve the abilities of such individuals to use participants and other volunteers in an effective manner which results in high quality service and the desire of participants or volunteers to continue to serve in other capacities after the program is completed;

“(8) training of those operating or overseeing national service programs in program evaluation and performance measures to inform practices to augment the capacity and sustainability of the program;

“(9) training of those operating or overseeing national service programs to effectively accommodate people with disabilities to increase the participation of people with disabilities in national service programs;

“(10) establishing networks and collaboration among employers, educators, and other key stakeholders in the community to further leverage resources to increase local participation and to coordinate community-wide planning and service;

“(11) providing training and technical assistance for the National Senior Service Corps; and

“(12) carrying out such other activities as the Chief Executive Officer determines to be appropriate.

“(c) PRIORITY.—The Corporation shall give priority to programs under the national service laws and those entities wishing to establish programs under the national service laws seeking training or technical assistance that—

“(1) seek to carry out (as defined in section 101) high quality programs where the services are needed most;

“(2) seek to carry out (as defined in section 101) high quality programs where national service programs do not currently exist or where the programs are too limited to meet community needs;

“(3) seek to carry out (as defined in section 101) high quality programs that focus on and provide service opportunities for underserved rural and urban areas and populations; and

“(4) assist programs in developing a service component that combines students, out-of-school youths, and older adults as participants to provide needed community services.”.

Subtitle K—Repeal of Title III (Points of Light Foundation)

SEC. 1831. REPEAL.

Title III (42 U.S.C. 12661 et seq.) is repealed.

Subtitle L—Amendments to Title V (Authorization of Appropriations)

SEC. 1841. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 501 (42 U.S.C. 12681) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 501. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) TITLE I.—

“(1) SUBTITLE B.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to provide financial assistance under subtitle B of title I—

“(i) \$65,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, of which \$10,000,000 shall be for summer of service grants and \$10,000,000 shall be deposited in the National Service Trust to support summer of service educational awards; and

“(ii) such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

“(B) PROGRAMS.—Of the amount appropriated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year—

“(i) not more than 63.75 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance under part I of subtitle B of title I;

“(ii) not more than 25 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance under part II of such subtitle; and

“(iii) not less than 11.25 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance under part III of such subtitle.

“(2) SUBTITLES C, D, AND H.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to provide financial assistance under subtitles C and H of title I, to administer the National Service Trust and disburse national service educational awards and scholarships under subtitle D of title I, and to carry out such audits and evaluations as the Chief Executive Officer or the Inspector General of the Corporation may determine to be necessary, \$485,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

“(B) PROGRAMS.—Of the amount appropriated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year, up to 15 percent shall be made available to provide financial assistance under subsections (b) and (c) of section 126, and under subtitle H of title I.

“(C) SUBTITLE C.—Of the amount appropriated under subparagraph (A), the following amounts shall be made available to provide financial assistance under section 121 of subtitle C of title I:

“(i) For fiscal year 2008, not more than \$324,000,000.

“(ii) For fiscal year 2009, not more than \$357,000,000.

“(iii) For fiscal year 2010, not more than \$397,000,000.

“(iv) For each of fiscal years 2011 through 2012, such sums as may be necessary.

“(3) SUBTITLE E.—There are authorized to be appropriated to operate the National Civilian

Community Corps and provide financial assistance under subtitle E of title I, \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

“(4) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—There are authorized to be appropriated for the administration of this Act, including financial assistance under sections 126(a) and 196B, \$51,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

“(B) *CORPORATION.*—Of the amounts appropriated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year—

“(i) up to 69 percent shall be made available to the Corporation for the administration of this Act, including to provide financial assistance under section 196B; and

“(ii) the remainder shall be available to provide financial assistance under section 126(a).

“(5) *TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—Of the amounts appropriated for a fiscal year under subtitles B, C, and H of title I of this Act and under titles I and II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, the Corporation shall reserve up to 2.5 percent to carry out subtitle J of this Act. Notwithstanding subsection (b), amounts so reserved shall be available only for the fiscal year for which they are reserved.

“(b) *AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—Funds appropriated under this section shall remain available until expended.”

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF 1973

SEC. 2001. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of a provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a provision of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4950 et seq.).

Subtitle A—Amendments to Title I (National Volunteer Antipoverty Programs)

SEC. 2101. PURPOSE.

Section 2 (42 U.S.C. 4950) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “both young and older citizens” and inserting “citizens of all ages and backgrounds”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “local agencies” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “local agencies, expand relationships with, and support for, the efforts of civic, community, and educational organizations, and utilize the energy, innovative spirit, experience, and skills of all Americans.”

SEC. 2102. PURPOSE OF THE VISTA PROGRAM.

Section 101 (42 U.S.C. 4951) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence, by striking “affected with” and inserting “affected by”; and

(2) in the third sentence, by striking “local level” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “local level, to support efforts by local agencies and organizations to achieve long-term sustainability of projects, consistent with section 186 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, initiated or expanded under the VISTA program activities, and to strengthen local agencies and community organizations to carry out the purpose of this part.”

SEC. 2103. APPLICATIONS.

Section 103 (42 U.S.C. 4953) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “American Samoa,”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “handicapped” and inserting “disabled”; and

(ii) by striking “handicaps” and inserting “disabilities”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “jobless, the hungry, and low-income” and inserting “unemployed, the hungry, and low-income”;

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking “prevention, education,” and inserting “through prevention, education, rehabilitation, and treatment,”;

(E) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, mental illness,” after “including”;

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(H) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(8) in the re-entry and re-integration of formerly incarcerated youth and adults into society, including life skills training, employment training, counseling, educational training, and educational counseling;

“(9) in developing and carrying out financial literacy, financial planning, budgeting, savings, and reputable credit accessibility programs in low-income communities, including those programs which educate on financing home ownership and higher education;

“(10) in initiating and supporting before-school and after-school programs servicing children in low-income communities that may engage participants in mentoring relationships, tutoring, life skills, or study skills programs, service-learning, physical, nutrition, and health education programs, including programs aimed at fighting childhood obesity, and other activities addressing the needs of the community’s children;

“(11) in establishing and supporting community economic development initiatives, including micro-enterprises, with a priority on such programs in rural areas and other areas where such programs are needed most;

“(12) in assisting veterans and their families through establishing or augmenting programs which assist such persons with access to legal assistance, health care (including mental health), employment counseling or training, education counseling or training, affordable housing, and other support services; and

“(13) in addressing the health and wellness of low-income and underserved communities, including programs to increase access to preventive services, insurance, and health care.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “recruitment and placement procedures” and inserting “recruitment and placement procedures that involve sponsoring organizations and”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “central information system that shall, on request, promptly provide” and inserting “database that provides”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) by striking “timely and effective” and inserting “timely and cost-effective”; and

(II) by striking “the recruitment of volunteers” and inserting “recruitment and management of volunteers”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the following: “The Director shall give priority to—

“(A) disadvantaged youth (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990) and low-income adults; and

“(B) retired adults of any profession, but with an emphasis on those professions whose services and training are most needed in a community, such as the health care professions, teaching, counseling, and engineering and other professions requiring a high level of technical and project management skills, to utilize their experience, including professional skills, in the VISTA program.”;

(D) in paragraph (5)(B), by striking “information system” and inserting “database”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “personnel described in subsection (b)(2)(C)” and inserting “personnel described in subsection (b)(2)(C), sponsoring organizations, and the Office of Outreach and Recruitment”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “the Internet and related technologies,” after “television,”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “Internet and related technologies,” after “through the”;

(iv) in subparagraph (C), by inserting after “senior citizens organizations,” the following: “offices of economic development, State employment security agencies, employment offices,”;

(v) in subparagraph (F), by striking “National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993” and inserting “National and Community Service Act of 1990”; and

(vi) in subparagraph (G), by striking “, on request,”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “this subsection” and inserting “this subsection and related public awareness and recruitment activities under the national service laws and through the Office of Outreach and Recruitment”; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “Beginning” and all that follows through “for the purpose” and inserting “For the purpose”; and

(ii) by striking “1.5 percent” and inserting “2 percent”;

(4) by amending the second sentence of subsection (d) to read as follows: “Whenever feasible, such efforts shall be coordinated with an appropriate local workforce investment board established under section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.”;

(5) in subsection (g) by striking “and has been submitted to the Governor” and all that follows and inserting a period; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) The Director may enter into agreements under which public and private nonprofit organizations, with sufficient financial capacity and size, pay for all or a portion of the costs of supporting the service of volunteers under this title, consistent with the provisions of section 186 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990.”

SEC. 2104. VISTA PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Part A of title I is amended by inserting after section 103 (42 U.S.C. 4953) the following:

“SEC. 103A. VISTA PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

“(a) *IN GENERAL.*—With not less than one-third of the funds made available under subsection (d) in each fiscal year, the Director shall make grants for VISTA positions to support programs of national significance. Each program for which a grant is received under this subsection shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements applicable to that program.

“(b) *ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.*—The Director shall make grants under subsection (a) to support one or more of the following programs to address problems that concern low-income and rural communities in the Nation:

“(1) In developing and carrying-out financial literacy, financial planning, budgeting, savings, and reputable credit accessibility programs in low-income communities, including those programs which educate on financing home ownership and higher education.

“(2) In initiating and supporting before-school and after-school programs in low-income communities that may include such activities as establishing mentoring relationships, physical education, tutoring, instruction in 21st century thinking skills, life skills, and study skills, community service, service-learning, nutrition and health education, and other activities aimed at keeping children, safe, educated, and healthy, which serve the children in such community.

“(3) In establishing and supporting community economic development initiatives, including micro-enterprises, with a priority on such programs in rural areas and areas where such programs are needed most.

“(4) In assisting veterans and their families through establishing or augmenting programs which assist such persons with access to legal assistance, health care (including mental health), employment counseling or training, education counseling or training, affordable housing, and other support services.

“(5) In addressing the health and wellness of low-income and underserved communities across our Nation, including programs to fight childhood obesity through nutrition, physical fitness, and other associated life skills education programs and programs to increase access to preventive services, insurance, and health care.

“(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to receive a grant under subsection (a), an applicant shall submit an application to the Director at such time and in such manner as the Director requires and receive approval of the application. Such application shall, at a minimum, demonstrate to the Director a level of expertise in carrying out such a program.

“(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made available under subsection (d) shall be used to supplement and not supplant the number of VISTA volunteers engaged in programs addressing the problem for which such funds are awarded unless such sums are an extension of funds previously provided under this title.

“(d) FUNDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriate under section 501 for each fiscal year there shall be available to the Director such sums as may be necessary to make grants under subsection (a).

“(2) LIMITATION.—No funds shall be made available to the Director to make grants under subsection (a) unless the amounts appropriated under section 501 available for such fiscal year to carry out part A are sufficient to maintain the number of projects and volunteers funded under part A in the preceding fiscal year.

“(e) INFORMATION.—The Director shall widely disseminate information on grants that may be made under this section, including through the Office of Outreach and Recruitment and other volunteer recruitment programs being carried out by public or private non-profit organizations.”.

SEC. 2105. TERMS AND PERIODS OF SERVICE.

Section 104(d) (42 U.S.C. 4954(d)) is amended—
(1) in the first sentence, by striking “with the terms and conditions of their service.” and inserting “with the terms and conditions of their service or any adverse action, such as termination, proposed by the sponsoring organization. The procedure shall provide for an appeal to the Director of any proposed termination.”; and

(2) in the third sentence (as amended by this section), by striking “and the terms and conditions of their service”.

SEC. 2106. SUPPORT SERVICE.

Section 105(a)(1)(B) (42 U.S.C. 4955(a)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “Such stipend” and all that follows through “in the case of persons” and inserting “Such stipend shall be set at a minimum of \$125 per month and a maximum of \$150 per month, subject to the availability of funds to accomplish such a maximum. The Director may provide a stipend of \$250 per month in the case of persons”.

SEC. 2107. SECTIONS REPEALED.

The following provisions are repealed:

(1) VISTA LITERACY CORPS.—Section 109 (42 U.S.C. 4959).

(2) UNIVERSITY YEAR FOR VISTA.—Part B of title I (42 U.S.C. 4971 et seq.).

(3) LITERACY CHALLENGE GRANTS.—Section 124 (42 U.S.C. 4995).

SEC. 2108. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 121 (42 U.S.C. 4991) is amended in the second sentence by striking “situations” and inserting “organizations”.

SEC. 2109. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 123 (42 U.S.C. 4993) is amended—

(1) in the section heading by striking “**TECHNICAL AND**”; and

(2) by striking “technical and”.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Title II (National Senior Volunteer Corps)

SEC. 2201. CHANGE IN NAME.

Title II (42 U.S.C. 5000 et seq.) is amended in the title heading by striking “**NATIONAL SEN-**

IOR VOLUNTEER CORPS” and inserting “**NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS**”.

SEC. 2202. PURPOSE.

Section 200 (42 U.S.C. 5000) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 200. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

“It is the purpose of this title to provide—

“(1) opportunities for senior service to meet unmet local, State, and national needs in the areas of education, public safety, emergency and disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery, health and human needs, and the environment;

“(2) for the National Senior Service Corps, comprised of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program, and demonstration and other programs to empower people 55 years of age or older to contribute to their communities through service, enhance the lives of those who serve and those whom they serve, and provide communities with valuable services;

“(3) opportunities for people 55 years of age or older, through the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, to share their knowledge, experiences, abilities, and skills for the betterment of their communities and themselves;

“(4) opportunities for low-income people 55 years of age or older, through the Foster Grandparents Program, to have a positive impact on the lives of children in need;

“(5) opportunities for low-income people 55 years of age or older, through the Senior Companion Program, to provide critical support services and companionship to adults at risk of institutionalization and who are struggling to maintain a dignified independent life; and

“(6) for research, training, demonstration, and other program activities to increase and improve opportunities for people 55 years of age or older to meet unmet needs, including those related to public safety, public health, and emergency and disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery, in their communities.”.

SEC. 2203. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROJECTS.

Section 201 (42 U.S.C. 5001) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “avail themselves of opportunities for volunteer service in their community” and inserting “share their experiences, abilities, and skills for the betterment of their communities and themselves through service”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “, and individuals 60 years of age or older will be given priority for enrollment,”;

(C) in paragraph (3) by inserting “either prior to or during the volunteer service” after “may be necessary”; and—

(D) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) the project is being designed and implemented with the advice of experts in the field of service to be delivered as well as with those who have expertise in the recruitment and management of volunteers, particularly those of the Baby Boom generation.”;

(2) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) The Director shall give priority to projects—

“(1) utilizing retired scientists, technicians, engineers, and mathematicians (the STEM professionals) to improve Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education through activities such as assisting teachers in classroom demonstrations or laboratory experiences, running after-school, weekend, or summer programs designed to engage disadvantaged youth (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990) or low-income, minority youth in the STEM fields and to improve mastery of the STEM content, providing field trips to businesses, institutions of higher education, museums, and other locations where the STEM professions are practiced or illuminated;

“(2) utilizing retired health care professionals to improve the health and wellness of low income or rural communities;

“(3) utilizing retired criminal justice professionals for programs designed to prevent disadvantaged youth (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990) from joining gangs or committing crimes;

“(4) utilizing retired military and emergency professionals for programs to improve public safety, emergency and disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery, search and rescue, and homeland security efforts; and

“(5) utilizing retired computer science professionals, technicians of related technologies, business professionals, and others with relevant knowledge to increase, for low income individuals and families, access to and obtaining the benefits from computers and other existing and emerging technologies.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) COMPETITIVE RE-EVALUATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 412, a grant or contract shall not, after fiscal year 2009, be awarded or renewed under this section unless—

“(A) the program for which the award or renewal is to be made is competitively re-evaluated in comparison to other programs; or

“(B) the program for which the award or renewal is to be made—

“(i) received an award or renewal in a fiscal year that was both—

“(I) within the preceding three fiscal years; and

“(II) after fiscal year 2009; and

“(ii) was competitively re-evaluated in connection with that award or renewal in that fiscal year.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each competitive re-evaluation required by paragraph (1) shall be carried out through a process that ensures that—

“(A) the resulting grants (or contracts) support no less than the volunteer service years of the previous grant (or contract) cycle in a given service area;

“(B) the resulting grants (or contracts) maintain a similar program distribution; and

“(C) every effort is made to minimize the disruption of volunteers.

“(3) PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.—The competitive re-evaluation shall include some form of priority consideration for existing grantees in good standing.”.

SEC. 2204. FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM GRANTS.

Section 211 (42 U.S.C. 5011) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “low-income persons aged sixty or over” and inserting “low-income and other persons aged 55 or over”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “shall have the exclusive authority to determine, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection—” and inserting “may determine—”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) whether it is in the best interests of a child receiving, and of a particular foster grandparent providing, services in such a project, to continue such relationship after the child reaches the age of 21, if such child was receiving such services prior to attaining the age of 21.”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(3) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated by this section), by striking “paragraphs (1) and (2)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”;

(4) by adding after paragraph (2) (as redesignated by this section) the following:

“(3) If an assignment of a foster grandparent is suspended or discontinued, the replacement of

that foster grandparent shall be determined through the mutual agreement of all parties involved in the provision of services to the child.”;

(5) in subsection (d), in the second sentence, by striking “Any stipend” and all that follows through “inflation,” and inserting “Any stipend or allowance provided under this part shall not exceed 75 percent of the minimum wage under section 6 the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206), and the Federal share shall not be less than \$2.65 per hour, provided that the Director shall adjust the Federal share once prior to December 31, 2012, to account for inflation.”;

(6) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “125” and inserting “200”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “, as so adjusted” and all that follows through “local situations”;

(7) by striking subsection (f) and inserting:

“(f)(1) Subject to the restrictions in paragraph (3), individuals who are not low-income persons may serve as volunteers under this part. The regulations issued by the Director to carry out this part (other than regulations relating to stipends or allowances to individuals authorized by subsection (d)) shall apply to all volunteers under this part, without regard to whether such volunteers are eligible to receive a stipend or allowance under subsection (d).

“(2) Except as provided under paragraph (1), each recipient of a grant or contract to carry out a project under this part shall give equal treatment to all volunteers who participate in such project, without regard to whether such volunteers are eligible to receive a stipend or allowance under subsection (d).

“(3) An individual who is not a low-income person may not become a volunteer under this part if allowing that individual to become a volunteer under this part would prevent a low-income person from becoming a volunteer under this part or would displace a low-income person from being a volunteer under this part.

“(4) The Office of Outreach and Recruitment shall conduct outreach to ensure the inclusion of low-income persons in programs and activities authorized under this title.”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(g) The Director may also provide a stipend or allowance in an amount not to exceed 10 percent more than the amount established under subsection (d) to leaders who, on the basis of past experience as volunteers, special skills, and demonstrated leadership abilities, may coordinate activities, including training, and otherwise support the service of volunteers under this part.

“(h) The program may accept up to 15 percent of volunteers serving in a project under this part for a fiscal year who do not meet the definition of ‘low-income’ under subsection (e), upon certification by the recipient of a grant or contract that it is unable to effectively recruit and place low-income volunteers in the number of placements approved for the project.”.

SEC. 2205. SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM GRANTS.

Section 213 (42 U.S.C. 5013) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “low-income persons aged 60 or over” and inserting “low-income and other persons aged 55 or over”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “Subsections (d), (e), and (f)” and inserting “Subsections (d) through (h)”;

(3) by striking subsection (c)(2)(B) and inserting the following:

“(B) Senior companion volunteer trainers and leaders may receive a stipend or allowance consistent with subsection (g) authorized under subsection (d) of section 211, as approved by the Director.”.

SEC. 2206. PROMOTION OF NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.

Section 221 (42 U.S.C. 5021) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “VOLUNTEER” and inserting “SERVICE”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by inserting “of all ages and backgrounds living in rural, suburban, and urban localities” after “greater participation of volunteers”.

SEC. 2207. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) CHANGE IN AGE ELIGIBILITY.—Section 223 (42 U.S.C. 5023) is amended by striking “sixty years and older from minority groups” and inserting “55 years and older from minority and underserved populations”.

(b) NAME CHANGE.—Section 224 (42 U.S.C. 5024) is amended in the heading by striking “VOLUNTEER” and inserting “SERVICE”.

SEC. 2208. PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Section 225 (42 U.S.C. 5025) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) Applicants for grants under paragraph (1) shall determine which program under part A, B, or C the program shall be carried out and submit an application as required for programs under part A, B, or C.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) The Director shall ensure that at least 50 percent of the grants made under this section are from applicants currently not receiving assistance from the Corporation and when possible in locations where there are no current programs under part A, B, C in existence.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “or Alzheimer’s disease, with an intent of allowing those served to age in place”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “through education, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, including programs that teach parenting skills, life skills, family management skills, assists in obtaining affordable childcare, offers or assists in locating employment training or placement, and other skills and services needed by teenage parents and their families to establish a healthy environment for their children”;

(D) by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

“(4) Programs that establish and support mentoring programs for disadvantaged youth (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990), including those mentoring programs that match youth with volunteer mentors leading to apprenticeship programs and employment training.”;

(E) in paragraph (5), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, including those programs that serve youth and adults with limited English proficiency”;

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” and all that follows through the period and insert “and for individuals and children with disabilities or chronic illnesses living at home.”;

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking “after-school activities” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “after-school programs serving children in low-income communities that may engage participants in mentoring relationships, tutoring, life skills or study skills programs, service-learning, physical, nutrition, and health education programs, including programs aimed at fighting childhood obesity, and other activities addressing the needs of the community’s children, including those of working parents.”;

(H) by striking paragraphs (8), (9), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), and (18);

(I) by redesignating paragraphs (10) and (11) as paragraphs (8) and (9), respectively;

(J) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(10) Programs that engage older adults with children and youth to complete service in energy

conservation, environmental stewardship, or other environmental needs of a community.

“(11) Programs that collaborate with criminal justice professionals and organizations in prevention programs aimed at disadvantaged youth (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990) or youth re-entering society after incarceration and their families, which may include mentoring and counseling, which many include employment counseling.”;

(K) by redesignating paragraph (17) as paragraph (12); and

(L) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) Programs that strengthen community efforts in support of homeland security.”;

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “shall demonstrate to the Director” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “shall demonstrate to the Director a level of expertise in carrying out such a program.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by inserting “widely” before “disseminate”; and

(B) by striking “to field personnel” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “, including through the Office of Outreach and Recruitment and other volunteer recruitment programs being carried out by public or private non-profit organizations.”.

SEC. 2209. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

Part D of title II (42 U.S.C. 5000 et seq.) is amended by adding after section 227 the following:

“SEC. 228. CONTINUITY OF SERVICE.

“To ensure the continued service of individuals in communities served by the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program prior to enactment of this section, in making grants under this title the Corporation shall take actions it considers necessary to maintain service assignments for such seniors and to ensure continuity of service for communities.

“SEC. 229. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a program receiving assistance under this title may accept donations, including donations in cash or in kind.

“(b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a program receiving assistance under this title shall not accept donations from the beneficiaries of the program.”.

SEC. 2210. AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR.

Section 231 (42 U.S.C. 5028) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “activities;” and inserting “activities described in section 225(b) and carried out through programs described in parts A, B, and C; and”; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

“(2) programs that support older Americans in aging in place while augmenting the capacity of members of a community to serve each other through reciprocal service centers, service credit banking, community economic scripts, barter services, timebanking, and other similar programs.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PRIORITY.—For purposes of subsection (b), priority shall be given to—

“(1) programs with established experience in carrying out such a program and engaging the entire community in service exchange;

“(2) programs with the capacity to connect to similar programs throughout a city or region to augment the available services to older Americans and for members of the community to serve each other;

“(3) programs seeking to establish in an area where needs of older Americans are left unmet and older Americans are unable to consider aging in place without such service exchange in place; and

“(4) programs that integrate participants in or collaborate with service-learning programs, AmeriCorps State and National programs, the

VISTA program, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Foster Grandparents program, and the Senior Companion programs, and programs described in section 411 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032)."

**Subtitle C—Amendments to Title IV
(Administration and Coordination)**

SEC. 2301. NONDISPLACEMENT.

Section 404(a) (42 U.S.C. 5044(a)) is amended by striking "displacement of employed workers" and inserting "displacement of employed workers or volunteers (other than participants under the national service laws)".

SEC. 2302. NOTICE AND HEARING PROCEDURES.

Section 412(a) (42 U.S.C. 5052(a)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (2)—
(A) by striking "75" and inserting "60"; and
(B) by adding "and" at the end;
(2) by striking paragraph (3); and
(3) by redesignating paragraph (4) as (3).

SEC. 2303. DEFINITIONS.

Section 421 (42 U.S.C. 5061) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting ", the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," after "American Samoa,";

(2) in paragraph (13), by striking "National Senior Volunteer Corps" and inserting "National Senior Service Corps"; and

(3) in paragraph (14)—
(A) by striking "National Senior Volunteer Corps" and inserting "National Senior Service Corps"; and
(B) by striking "parts A, B, C, and E of";

SEC. 2304. PROTECTION AGAINST IMPROPER USE.

Section 425 (42 U.S.C. 5065) is amended by striking "National Senior Volunteer Corps" and inserting "National Senior Service Corps".

**Subtitle D—Amendments to Title V
(Authorization of Appropriations)**

SEC. 2401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR VISTA AND OTHER PURPOSES.

Section 501 (42 U.S.C. 5081) is amended—
(a) in subsection (a)—
(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ", excluding section 109" and all that follows and inserting "\$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.";

(B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (4) and redesignating paragraphs (3) and (5) as paragraphs (2) and (3); and

(C) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated by this section), by striking ", excluding section 125" and all that follows and inserting "such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012."; and

(2) by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 2402. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.

Section 502 (42 U.S.C. 5082) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 502. NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.

"(a) RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part A of title II, \$67,500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

"(b) FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part B of title II, \$115,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

"(c) SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part C of title II, \$52,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

"(d) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part E of title II, \$500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012."

SEC. 2403. ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION.

Section 504 (42 U.S.C. 5084) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 504. ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION.

"There are authorized to be appropriated for the administration of this Act \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012."

TITLE III—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

SEC. 3101. INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 1978.

Section 8F(a)(1) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking "National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993" and inserting "National and Community Service Act of 1990".

TITLE IV—TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO TABLES OF CONTENTS

SEC. 4101. TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR THE NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT OF 1990.

Section 1(b) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12501 note) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

"Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

"Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.

"Sec. 3. Sense of Congress.

"TITLE I—NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE STATE GRANT PROGRAM

"Subtitle A—General Provisions

"Sec. 101. Definitions.

"Subtitle B—School-Based and Community-Based Service-Learning Programs

"PART I—PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS

"Sec. 111. Assistance to States, Territories, and Indian tribes.

"Sec. 112. Allotments.

"Sec. 113. Applications.

"Sec. 114. Consideration of applications.

"Sec. 115. Participation of students and teachers from private schools.

"Sec. 116. Federal, State, and local contributions.

"Sec. 116A. Limitations on uses of funds.

"PART II—HIGHER EDUCATION INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

"Sec. 117. Higher education innovative programs for community service.

"PART III—INNOVATIVE SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH

"Sec. 118. Innovative demonstration service-learning programs and research.

"Subtitle C—National Service Trust Program

"PART I—INVESTMENT IN NATIONAL SERVICE

"Sec. 121. Authority to provide assistance and approved national service positions.

"Sec. 122. Types of national service programs eligible for program assistance.

"Sec. 123. Types of national service positions eligible for approval for national service educational awards.

"Sec. 124. Types of program assistance.

"Sec. 126. Other special assistance.

"PART II—APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS

"Sec. 129. Provision of assistance and approved national service positions.

"Sec. 129A. Education awards only research.

"Sec. 130. Application for assistance and approved national service positions.

"Sec. 131. National service program assistance requirements.

"Sec. 132. Ineligible service categories.

"Sec. 133. Consideration of applications.

"PART III—NATIONAL SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

"Sec. 137. Description of participants.

"Sec. 138. Selection of national service participants.

"Sec. 139. Terms of service.

"Sec. 140. Living allowances for national service participants.

"Sec. 141. National service educational awards.

"Subtitle D—National Service Trust and Provision of National Service Educational Awards

"Sec. 145. Establishment of the National Service Trust.

"Sec. 146. Individuals eligible to receive a national service educational award from the Trust.

"Sec. 147. Determination of the amount of the national service educational award.

"Sec. 148. Disbursement of national service educational awards.

"Sec. 149. Process of approval of national service positions.

"Subtitle E—National Civilian Community Corps

"Sec. 151. Purpose.

"Sec. 152. Establishment of National Civilian Community Corps Program.

"Sec. 153. National service program.

"Sec. 154. Summer national service program.

"Sec. 155. National Civilian Community Corps.

"Sec. 156. Training.

"Sec. 157. Service projects.

"Sec. 158. Authorized benefits for Corps members.

"Sec. 159. Administrative provisions.

"Sec. 160. Status of Corps members and Corps personnel under Federal law.

"Sec. 161. Contract and grant authority.

"Sec. 162. Responsibilities of other departments.

"Sec. 163. Advisory board.

"Sec. 164. Annual evaluation.

"Sec. 166. Definitions.

"Subtitle F—Administrative Provisions

"Sec. 171. Family and medical leave.

"Sec. 172. Reports.

"Sec. 173. Supplementation.

"Sec. 174. Prohibition on use of funds.

"Sec. 175. Nondiscrimination.

"Sec. 176. Notice, hearing, and grievance procedures.

"Sec. 177. Nonduplication and nondisplacement.

"Sec. 178. State Commissions on National and Community Service.

"Sec. 179. Evaluation.

"Sec. 180. Engagement of participants.

"Sec. 181. Contingent extension.

"Sec. 182. Partnerships with schools.

"Sec. 183. Rights of access, examination, and copying.

"Sec. 184. Drug-free workplace requirements.

"Sec. 185. Consolidated application and reporting requirements.

"Sec. 186. Sustainability.

"Sec. 187. Use of recovered funds.

"Sec. 188. Expenses of attending meetings.

"Sec. 189. Grant periods.

"Sec. 189A. Generation of volunteers.

"Sec. 189B. Limitation on program grant costs.

"Sec. 189C. Audits and reports.

"Subtitle G—Corporation for National and Community Service

"Sec. 191. Corporation for National and Community Service.

"Sec. 192. Board of Directors.

"Sec. 192A. Authorities and duties of the Board of Directors.

"Sec. 193. Chief Executive Officer.

"Sec. 193A. Authorities and duties of the Chief Executive Officer.

"Sec. 194. Officers.

"Sec. 195. Employees, consultants, and other personnel.

"Sec. 196. Administration.

"Sec. 196A. Corporation State offices.

"Sec. 196B. Office of Outreach and Recruitment.

"Subtitle H—Investment for Quality and Innovation

"PART I—ADDITIONAL CORPORATION ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL SERVICE

"Sec. 198. Additional corporation activities to support national service.

"Sec. 198B. Presidential awards for service.

"PART II—INNOVATIVE AND MODEL PROGRAM SUPPORT"

"Sec. 198D. Innovative and model program support.

"PART III—NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS CLEARINGHOUSE"

"Sec. 198E. National service programs clearinghouse.

"Subtitle I—American Conservation and Youth Corps"

"Sec. 199. Short title.

"Sec. 199A. General authority.

"Sec. 199B. Limitation on purchase of capital equipment.

"Sec. 199C. State application.

"Sec. 199D. Focus of programs.

"Sec. 199E. Related programs.

"Sec. 199F. Public lands or Indian lands.

"Sec. 199G. Training and education services.

"Sec. 199H. Preference for certain projects.

"Sec. 199I. Age and citizenship criteria for enrollment.

"Sec. 199J. Use of volunteers.

"Sec. 199K. Living allowance.

"Sec. 199L. Joint programs.

"Sec. 199M. Federal and State employee status.

"Subtitle J—Training and Technical Assistance"

"Sec. 199N. Training and technical assistance.

"TITLE II—MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING PROGRAMS"

"Subtitle A—Publication"

"Sec. 201. Information for students.

"Sec. 202. Exit counseling for borrowers.

"Sec. 203. Department information on deferments and cancellations.

"Sec. 204. Data on deferments and cancellations.

"Subtitle B—Youthbuild Projects"

"Sec. 211. Youthbuild projects.

"Subtitle C—Amendments to Student Literacy Corps"

"Sec. 221. Amendments to Student Literacy Corps.

"TITLE IV—PROJECTS HONORING VICTIMS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS"

"Sec. 401. Projects.

"TITLE V—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS"

"Sec. 501. Authorization of appropriations.

"TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS"

"Sec. 601. Amtrak waste disposal.

"Sec. 602. Exchange program with countries in transition from totalitarianism to Democracy."

SEC. 4102. TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR THE DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF 1973.

Section 1(b) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4950 note) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

"Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

"Sec. 2. Volunteerism policy.

"TITLE I—NATIONAL VOLUNTEER ANTIPOVERTY PROGRAMS"

"PART A—VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA"

"Sec. 101. Statement of purpose.

"Sec. 102. Authority to operate VISTA program.

"Sec. 103. Selection and assignment of volunteers.

"Sec. 103A. VISTA programs of national significance.

"Sec. 104. Terms and periods of service.

"Sec. 105. Support service.

"Sec. 106. Participation of beneficiaries.

"Sec. 107. Participation of younger and older persons.

"Sec. 108. Limitation.

"Sec. 110. Applications for assistance.

"PART C—SPECIAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS"

"Sec. 121. Statement of purpose.

"Sec. 122. Authority to establish and operate special volunteer and demonstration programs.

"Sec. 123. Financial assistance.

"TITLE II—NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS"

"Sec. 200. Statement of purpose.

"PART A—RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM"

"Sec. 201. Grants and contracts for volunteer service projects.

"PART B—FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM"

"Sec. 211. Grants and contracts for volunteer service projects.

"PART C—SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM"

"Sec. 213. Grants and contracts for volunteer service projects.

"PART D—GENERAL PROVISIONS"

"Sec. 221. Promotion of National Senior Service Corps.

"Sec. 222. Payments.

"Sec. 223. Minority group participation.

"Sec. 224. Use of locally generated contributions in National Senior Service Corps.

"Sec. 225. Programs of national significance.

"Sec. 226. Adjustments to Federal financial assistance.

"Sec. 227. Multiyear grants or contracts.

"Sec. 228. Continuity of service.

"Sec. 229. Acceptance of donations.

"PART E—DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS"

"Sec. 231. Authority of Director.

"TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION"

"Sec. 403. Political activities.

"Sec. 404. Special limitations.

"Sec. 406. Labor standards.

"Sec. 408. Joint funding.

"Sec. 409. Prohibition of Federal control.

"Sec. 410. Coordination with other programs.

"Sec. 411. Prohibition.

"Sec. 414. Distribution of benefits between rural and urban areas.

"Sec. 415. Application of Federal law.

"Sec. 416. Evaluation.

"Sec. 417. Nondiscrimination provisions.

"Sec. 418. Eligibility for other benefits.

"Sec. 419. Legal expenses.

"Sec. 421. Definitions.

"Sec. 422. Audit.

"Sec. 423. Reduction of paperwork.

"Sec. 424. Review of project renewals.

"Sec. 425. Protection against improper use.

"Sec. 426. Center for Research and Training.

"TITLE V—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS"

"Sec. 501. National volunteer antipoverty programs.

"Sec. 502. National Senior Service Corps.

"Sec. 504. Administration and coordination.

"Sec. 505. Availability of appropriations.

"TITLE VI—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS AND REPEALERS"

"Sec. 601. Supersession of Reorganization Plan No. 1 of July 1, 1971.

"Sec. 602. Creditable service for civil service retirement.

"Sec. 603. Repeal of title VIII of the Economic Opportunity Act.

"Sec. 604. Repeal of title VI of the Older Americans Act."

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 5101. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Unless specifically provided otherwise, the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5102. SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS AND AGREEMENTS.

(a) **SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS.**—Changes pursuant to this Act in the terms and conditions of terms of service and other service assignments under

the national service laws (including the amount of the education award) shall apply only to individuals who enroll or otherwise begin service assignments after 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, except when agreed upon by all interested parties.

(b) **AGREEMENTS.**—Changes pursuant to this Act in the terms and conditions of grants, contracts, or other agreements under the national service laws shall apply only to such agreements entered into after 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, except when agreed upon by the parties to such agreements.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. No amendment to the committee amendment is in order except those printed in House Report 110-539. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent of the amendment, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MRS. MCCARTHY OF NEW YORK

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 offered by Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York:

Page 8, line 14, strike "111(a)(5)" and insert "118(c)(8)".

Page 11, line 7, strike "and".

Page 11, after line 7, insert the following: (10) in paragraph (28)(B) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking "602" and inserting "602(3)"; and

(B) by striking "1401" and inserting "1401(3)"; and

Page 11, line 8, redesignate (10) as (11).

Page 15, line 20, add "and" at the end.

Page 16, line 11, strike "and" and insert a period.

Page 16, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 18, line 21.

Page 22, after line 22, insert the following:

"(d) **MINIMUM AMOUNT.**—For any fiscal year for which amounts appropriated for this part exceed \$43,000,000, the minimum allotment to each State (as defined in section 101) under this section shall be \$65,000."

Page 22, line 25, through page 23, line 1, strike "or an allotment of approved summer of service positions under section 111(a)(5)(D)".

Page 23, after line 14, insert the following:

"(2) information about the criteria the State educational agency, Territory, or Indian tribe will use to evaluate and grant approval to applications submitted under subsection (c), including an assurance that the State educational agency, Territory, or Indian tribe will comply with the requirement in section 114(a);"

Page 23, line 15, redesignate (2) as (3).

Page 24, line 11, redesignate (3) as (4).

Page 25, line 15, add "and" at the end.

Page 25, line 17, strike "111(a)(5)" and insert "118(c)(8)".

Page 26, strike lines 5 through 11.

Page 26, on each of lines 20, 22, and 23, strike "State" and insert "State, Territory, or Indian tribe".

Page 27, line 1, strike "State" and insert "State, Territory, or Indian tribe".

Page 28, strike lines 12 through 15 and insert the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which assistance is provided under this part—

"(A) for new grants, may not exceed 80 percent of the total cost for the first year of the grant, 65 percent for the second year, and 50 percent for each remaining year; and

"(B) for continuing grants, may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program.".

Page 31, line 19, strike "and" the first place such term appears.

Page 31, line 20, insert before the period at the end the following: ", and community colleges serving predominantly minority populations".

Page 31, line 24, through page 32, line 1, strike "a grant is made" and insert "assistance is provided".

Page 36, lines 18 through 19, strike "a public or private nonprofit organization," and insert "or a public or private nonprofit organization (including grant-making entities), a public or private elementary or secondary school, a local educational agency,".

Page 37, line 2, insert a comma after "post-secondary".

Page 37, lines 16 through 17, strike "senior centers and communities, schools, libraries, and other" and insert "in senior centers and communities, in schools, in libraries, and in other".

Page 38, line 6, strike "and".

Page 38, after line 6, insert the following:

"(8) establish or implement summer of service programs during the summer months, including the cost of recruitment, training, and placement of service-learning coordinators—

"(A) for youth who will be enrolled in any grade from grade 6 through grade 12 at the end of the summer concerned;

"(B) for community-based service-learning projects that—

"(i) shall—

"(I) meet unmet human, educational, environmental (including energy conservation and stewardship), emergency and disaster preparedness, and public service needs; and

"(II) be intensive, structured, supervised, and designed to produce identifiable improvements to the community; and

"(ii) may include the extension of academic year service-learning programs into the summer months;

"(C) under which any student who completes 100 hours of service in an approved summer of service position, as certified through a process determined by the Corporation through regulations consistent with section 138(f), shall be eligible for a summer of service educational award of not more than \$500 (or, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, not more than \$1,000 in the case of a participant who is economically disadvantaged) from funds deposited in the National Service Trust and distributed by the Corporation as described in section 148; and

"(D) subject to the limitation that a student may not receive more than 2 summer of service educational awards from funds deposited in the National Service Trust; and".

Page 38, line 7, redesignate (8) as (9).

Page 40, lines 12 through 13, strike "50 percent of the total cost of the program" and insert "75 percent of the total cost of the program in the first year of the grant and 50 percent of the total cost of the program in the remaining years of the grant, including if the grant is extended for a fourth year".

Page 42, strike lines 24 through 25 and insert the following:

(ii) by striking "Federal share of the cost" and inserting "Corporation share of the cost,

including member living allowances, employment-related taxes, health care coverage, and worker's compensation and other necessary operation costs,";

Page 43, strike lines 1 through 4.

Page 43, lines 5 and 8, redesignate (iv) and (v) as (iii) and (iv), respectively.

Page 45, line 11, strike "to the Congress" and insert "to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate".

Page 49, line 6, insert after "services" the following: ", provision of supportive services to direct mentoring service organizations (in the case of a partnership), or".

Page 53, strike lines 13 through 16 and insert the following:

"(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—In making grants to a State under this subsection, the Corporation shall require the State to provide matching funds of \$1 from non-Federal sources for every \$1 provided by the Corporation.

"(3) ALTERNATIVE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the Chief Executive Officer may permit a State that demonstrates hardship or a new State Commission to use an alternative match as follows:".

Page 57, line 14, before the period at the end insert ", or 0.5 percent of the amount allocated for the State formula under this section, whichever is greater".

Page 62, after line 11, insert the following:
"SEC. 129B. PILOT AUTHORITY FOR MEMBER-SELECTED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS."

"(a) AUTHORITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated for a fiscal year under this subtitle and consistent with the restriction in subsection (b), the Corporation may provide fixed amount grants on a competitive basis to up to 10 State Commissions to support member-selected approved national service positions.

"(2) LIMITATION.—The Corporation shall award grants under paragraph (1) to support not more than 500 approved national service positions among the participating States.

"(b) LIMITS ON CORPORATION GRANT FUNDS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Grants awarded under subsection (a)(1) shall not exceed \$600 per individual enrolled in an approved national service position under this section.

"(2) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Grants received by State Commissions under subsection (a)(1)—

"(A) shall not be distributed to organizations receiving participants with approved national service positions under this section; and

"(B) may—

"(i) be used for oversight activities and mechanisms for the service sites as determined by the State Commission or the Corporation, which may include site visits;

"(ii) be used for activities to augment the experience of AmeriCorps participants in approved national service positions under this section, including activities to engage such participants in networking opportunities with other AmeriCorps participants; and

"(iii) be used for recruitment or training activities for participants in approved national service positions under this section.

"(c) STATE COMMISSION APPLICATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—A State Commission desiring to receive a grant under subsection (a)(1) shall submit an application to the Corporation at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation shall determine appropriate.

"(2) APPROVAL.—The Corporation shall approve each application under paragraph (1) in accordance with section 130(d).

"(d) SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS.—

"(1) APPLICANTS.—Participants desiring to receive an approved national service position under this section shall submit an application to the State Commission at such time and in such manner as the State Commission determines appropriate. The application shall contain—

"(A) a position description that includes—
 "(i) the unmet human, educational, public safety, or environmental need or needs that will be met by the participant; and

"(ii) a description of the activities and responsibilities that will be carried out by the participant;

"(B) a description of the organization operating the service site where the applicant intends to complete the service described in subparagraph (A);

"(C) a description of the support that will be provided by the organization to the participant to complete the activities described in subparagraph (A);

"(D) the evidence of community support for the activities described in subparagraph (A);

"(E) a certification from the organization operating the service site that the organization is accepting the participant to perform the service outlined in subparagraph (A);

"(F) a certification from the organization operating the service site that the organization satisfies qualification criteria established by the Corporation or the State Commission, including standards relating to organizational capacity, financial management, and programmatic oversight; and

"(G) any other information that the Corporation and the State Commission deems necessary.

"(2) RESIDENCY.—A participant may apply for approved national service positions under this section in States other than the State in which the participant resides.

"(e) ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—The Corporation and the State Commissions shall ensure that the organizations receiving participants with approved national service positions under this section—

"(1) maintain not more than 5 full-time staff and not more than 5 part-time staff; and

"(2) are not duplicating service provided by an existing AmeriCorps grantee in the same community; and

"(3) are located in a community where no Intermediary AmeriCorps grants recipient is operating; and

"(4) have not applied to receive assistance under this subtitle.

"(f) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If an organization receiving a participant with an approved national service position under this section fails to comply with terms and conditions established by the State Commission and the Corporation—

"(1) the organization shall not be eligible to receive such a participant, or receive an AmeriCorps grant under section 121, for not less than 5 years; and

"(2) the State Commission shall have the right to remove such a participant from the organization and relocate that individual to another site.

"(g) RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—An organization that receives participants with approved national service positions under this section shall not be considered a recipient of Federal financial assistance based on receiving such participants.

"(h) DEFINITION.—For the purpose of this section, the term 'Intermediary AmeriCorps grants recipient' means any organization that serves as a conduit between the Corporation and other unaffiliated organizations operating service sites.

Page 72, line 11, strike "111(a)(5)" and insert "118(c)(8)".

Page 72, strike line 15 and all that follows through page 73, line 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 1403. DETERMINATION OF THE AMOUNT OF NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.

Section 147 (42 U.S.C. 12603) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “a value, for each of not more than 2 of such terms of service, equal to 90 percent of—” and inserting “a value of—”; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

“(1) \$4,825, for fiscal year 2008;

“(2) \$4,925, for fiscal year 2009;

“(3) \$5,025, for fiscal year 2010;

“(4) \$5,125, for fiscal year 2011; and

“(5) \$5,225, for fiscal year 2012 and each fiscal year thereafter.”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting after “for each of not more than 2 of such terms of service” the following: “in the period of one year”.

Page 73, line 20, strike “111(a)(5)(D)” and insert “118(c)(8)(C)”.

Page 74, line 4, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 75, line 16, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 76, line 2, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 77, line 2, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 78, line 16, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 80, line 2, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 82, line 5, strike “to Congress” and insert “to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 83, line 8, strike “111(a)(5)” and insert “118(c)(8)”.

Page 87, line 17, strike “The Director” and all that follows through “goal.” on line 24 and insert “The Director shall take appropriate steps, including through collaboration with the Office of Outreach and Recruitment, to increase the percentage of participants in the program who are disadvantaged youth toward 50 percent of all participants by year 2010. The Director shall report to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate annually on such efforts, any challenges faced, and the annual participation rates of disadvantaged youth in the program.”.

Page 88, lines 6 through 7, strike “Demonstration”.

Page 88, lines 24 through 25, strike “Demonstration”.

Page 92, line 1, strike “striking by”.

Page 93, strike lines 17 through 22 and insert the following:

(3) by amending subsection (c)(2) to read as follows:

“(2) COORDINATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—Members of the cadre may provide, either directly or through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, the advanced service training referred to in subsection (b)(1) in coordination with vocational or technical schools, other employment and training providers, existing youth service programs, other qualified individuals, or organizations with expertise in training youth, including disadvantaged youth, in the skill areas described in such subsection.”.

Page 94, line 8, after “conservation” insert a comma.

Page 97, strike lines 19 through 21 and insert the following:

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “the Director” and inserting “the Chief Executive Officer”;

(II) in clause (iii) by striking “and” at the end;

(III) by redesignating clause (iv) as (v); and (IV) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

“(iv) give consideration to retired and other former law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency personnel, and other individuals with backgrounds in disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery; and”; and

Page 98, line 22, add “and” at the end.

Page 103, strike lines 24 through 25.

Page 104, lines 1 and 4, redesignate (2) and (3) as (1) and (2), respectively.

Page 107, line 24, strike “(g) through (k)” and insert “(h) through (l)”.

Page 108, after line 10, insert the following:

“(g) STATE PLAN FOR BABY BOOMER AND OLDER ADULT VOLUNTEER AND PAID SERVICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, to be eligible to receive a grant or allotment under subtitle B or C or to receive a distribution of approved national service positions under subtitle C, a State must work with appropriate State agencies and private entities to develop a comprehensive State plan for volunteer and paid service by members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults.

“(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The State plan shall include—

“(A) recommendations for public policy initiatives, including how to best tap the population of members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults as sources of social capital and as ways to address community needs;

“(B) recommendations to the State unit on aging on—

“(i) a marketing outreach plan to businesses;

“(ii) outreach to non-profit organizations;

“(iii) the State’s Department of Education; and

“(iv) other State agencies; and

“(C) recommendations for civic engagement and multigenerational activities, such as—

“(i) early childhood education, family literacy, and after school programs;

“(ii) respite services for older adults and caregivers; and

“(iii) transitions for members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults to purposeful work in their post career lives.

“(3) KNOWLEDGE INCORPORATED.—The State plan shall incorporate the current knowledge base regarding—

“(A) the economic impact of older workers’ roles in the economy;

“(B) the social impact of older workers’ roles in the community; and

“(C) the health and social benefits of active engagement for members of the Baby Boom generation and older adults.

“(4) PUBLICATION.—The State plan must be made public and be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer.”; and

Page 108, line 11, strike “(j)(1)” and insert “(k)(1)”.

Page 108, line 13, strike “; and” and insert a period.

Page 108, strike line 14 and all that follows through page 110, line 13.

Page 110, line 23, strike “various”.

Page 111, line 5, strike “grantees” and insert “each grantee”.

Page 112, line 12, strike “to which” and insert “with which”.

Page 112, line 13, insert a comma after “services”.

Page 112, line 14, strike “of the program and its impact, for such programs” and insert “and the impact of such programs”.

Page 113, line 6, insert “under this section” before the period at the end.

Page 114, line 25, strike “Congress” and insert “the Committee on Education and

Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 115, line 20, strike “Congress and the committees of jurisdiction” and insert “the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 117, line 5, strike “Congress” and insert “the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 118, line 1, strike “to work to”.

Page 118, line 2, insert “, taking into consideration challenges that programs in underserved rural or urban areas may face” before the semicolon.

Page 118, line 3, strike “assist” and insert “aid”.

Page 118, line 5, after “acquiring” insert “and leveraging”.

Page 118, lines 5 through 7, strike “that could replace assistance received under the national service laws”.

Page 122, line 25, strike “to Congress” and insert “to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 124, line 11, strike “to Congress” and insert “to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”.

Page 126, line 22, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

Page 126, after line 22, insert the following: (3) by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:

“(g) RECRUITMENT AND PUBLIC AWARENESS FUNCTIONS.—The Chief Executive Officer shall assign or hire, as necessary, such additional national, regional, and State personnel to carry out such recruiting and public awareness functions of the Office of Outreach and Recruitment to ensure that such functions are carried out in a timely and effective manner. The Chief Executive Officer shall give priority in the hiring of such additional personnel to individuals who have formerly served as volunteers in the programs carried out under the national service laws or similar programs, and to individuals who have specialized experience in the recruitment of volunteers.”.

Page 129, line 25, after “local education agencies,” insert “institutions of higher education”.

Page 130, after line 7, insert the following: “(3) to collaborate with organizations with demonstrated expertise in supporting and accommodating individuals with disabilities, including institutions of higher education, to identify and implement methods of recruitment to increase the number of participants with disabilities in the programs receiving assistance under the national service laws”.

Page 130, lines 8, 12, 16, 20, and 24, redesignate (3) through (7) as (4) through (8), respectively.

Page 131, lines 4, 7, and 9, redesignate (8) through (10) as (9) through (11), respectively.

Page 132, strike line 9 and all that follows through page 133, line 19, and insert the following:

SEC. 1707. STUDY TO EXAMINE AND INCREASE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS AND VETERANS PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS UNDER THE NATIONAL SERVICE LAWS AND TO DEVELOP PILOT PROGRAM.

Subtitle G of title I is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 196C. STUDY TO EXAMINE AND INCREASE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS AND VETERANS PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS UNDER THE NATIONAL SERVICE LAWS AND TO DEVELOP PILOT PROGRAM.

"(a) **PLANNING STUDY.**—The Corporation for National and Community Service shall conduct a study to identify—

"(1) specific areas of need for veterans;

"(2) how existing programs and activities carried out under the national service laws could better serve veterans and veterans service organizations;

"(3) gaps in service to veterans;

"(4) prospects for better coordination of services;

"(5) prospects for better utilization of veterans as resources and volunteers; and

"(6) methods for ensuring the efficient financial organization of services directed towards veterans.

"(b) **CONSULTATION.**—The study shall be carried out in consultation with veterans' service organizations, the Department of Veterans Affairs, State veterans agencies, the Department of Defense, and other individuals and entities the Corporation considers appropriate.

"(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the results of the planning study required by subsection (a), together with a plan for implementation of a pilot program using promising strategies and approaches for better targeting and serving veterans.

"(d) **PILOT PROGRAM.**—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Corporation shall develop and carry out a pilot program based on the findings in the report submitted under subsection (c).

"(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012."

Page 134, line 23, strike "subsections (p) and (q);" and insert "subsection (p); and".

Page 134, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 135, line 2, and insert the following:

(10) by redesignating subsections (q), (r), and (s) as (g), (h), and (i), respectively.

Page 138, after line 6, insert the following:

"(5) **SILVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS.**—A Silver Scholarship program for citizens age 55 and older to complete no less than 600 hours of service in a year meeting unmet human, educational, public safety, or environmental needs and receive a \$1000 education award, provided that—

"(A) the Corporation establishes criteria for the types of the service required to be performed to receive such award; and

"(B) the citizen uses such award in accordance with sections 146(c), 146(d), and 148(c)."

Page 138, lines 7 and 21, redesignate (5) and (6) as (6) and (7), respectively.

Page 139, line 3, redesignate (7) as (8).

Page 139, after line 13, insert the following:

"(2) **MATCHING FUNDS.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out a program for which a grant is made under this part may not exceed 76 percent of the total cost of the program in the first year and may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the program for the remaining years of the grant, including if the grant is extended for 1 year.

"(B) **NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.**—In providing for the remaining share of the cost of carrying out such a program, each recipient of a grant under this part—

"(i) shall provide for such share through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or services; and

"(ii) may provide for such share through State sources or local sources, including private funds or donated services."

Page 139, line 14, redesignate (2) as (3).

Page 139, line 14, strike "ENCOURAGEMENT" and insert "COLLABORATION ENCOURAGED".

Page 139, line 18, redesignate (3) as (4).

Page 139, line 23, after "strategies" insert a comma.

Page 140, strike line 19 and all that follows through page 141, line 9.

Page 141, lines 13 through 14, strike "the Corporation requires, and in such manner as".

Page 147, line 5, strike the semicolon and insert the following: ". Such activities may utilize funding from the reservation of funds to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities as described in section 129(k);".

Page 147, line 12, insert before the semicolon the following: ", including providing such training and technical assistance to programs receiving assistance under section 201 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973".

Page 148, line 24, strike "2008," and all that follows through the semicolon on page 149, line 4, and insert "2008;"

Page 149, line 10, strike "63.75" and insert "60".

Page 149, line 16, strike "11.25" and insert "15".

Page 149, after line 18, insert the following:

"(C) **SUMMER OF SERVICE.**—Of the amount appropriated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year, up to \$10,000,000 shall be for summer of service grants and up to \$10,000,000 shall be deposited in the National Service Trust to support summer of service educational awards, consistent with section 118(c)(8)."

Page 151, after line 3, insert the following:

"(D) **PRIORITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, in obligating the amounts made available pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subparagraph (C), priority shall be given to programs carried out in areas for which the President has declared the existence of a major disaster, in accordance with section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170), as a consequence of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita."

Page 156, line 17, strike "recruitment and".

Page 156, after line 19, insert the following:

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) strike "related to the recruitment and" and insert "related to the";

(II) strike "in conjunction with the recruitment and" and insert "in conjunction with the"; and

(III) strike "1993. Upon" and all that follows through the period at the end and insert "1993.";

Page 156, lines 20 and 24, redesignate (i) and (ii) as (ii) and (iii), respectively.

Page 160, after line 17, insert the following:

"(1) In the re-entry and re-integration of formerly incarcerated youth and adults into society, including life skills training, employment training, counseling, educational training, and educational counseling."

Page 160, lines 18 and 23, redesignate (1) and (2) as (2) and (3), respectively.

Page 161, lines 7, 12, and 18, redesignate (3), (4), and (5) as (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

Page 169, strike line 5 and all that follows through page 170, line 11, and insert the following:

"(e) **COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARDS REQUIRED.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Effective for fiscal year 2013 and each fiscal year thereafter, each

grant or contract awarded under this section in such a year shall be—

"(A) awarded for a period of 3 years; and

"(B) awarded through a competitive process.

"(2) **ELEMENTS OF COMPETITIVE PROCESS.**—The competitive process required by paragraph (1)(B)—

"(A) shall include the use of a peer review panel, including members with expertise in senior service and aging;

"(B) shall ensure that—

"(i) the resulting grants (or contracts) support no less than the volunteer service years of the previous grant (or contract) cycle in a given geographic service area;

"(ii) the resulting grants (or contracts) maintain a similar program distribution; and

"(iii) every effort is made to minimize the disruption to volunteers; and

"(C) shall include the performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established under subsection (f).

"(3) **ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPETITIVE PROCESS.**—The Corporation shall establish and make available the competitive process required by paragraph (1)(B) no later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection. The Corporation shall consult with the program directors of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program during development and implementation of the competitive process.

"(f) **EVALUATION PROCESS REQUIRED.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 412, and effective beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, each grant or contract under this section that expires in fiscal year 2010, 2011, and 2012 shall be subject to an evaluation process. The evaluation process shall be carried out, to the maximum extent practicable, in fiscal year 2009, 2010, and 2011, respectively.

"(2) **ELEMENTS OF EVALUATION PROCESS.**—The evaluation process required by paragraph (1)—

"(A) shall include performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria; and

"(B) shall evaluate the extent to which the recipient of the grant or contract meets or exceeds such performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria.

"(3) **ESTABLISHMENT OF EVALUATION PROCESS.**—The Corporation shall, in collaboration and consultation with program directors of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, establish and make available the evaluation process required by paragraph (1), including the performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria required by paragraph (2)(A), with particular attention to the different needs of rural and urban programs. The processes shall be established and made available, including notification of the available training and technical assistance, no later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection.

"(4) **EFFECT OF FAILING TO MEET PERFORMANCE MEASURES.**—If the evaluation process determines that the recipient has failed to meet or exceed the performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established under this subsection, the grant or contract shall not be renewed. Any successor grant or contract shall be awarded through the competitive process described in subsection (e)(1).

"(5) **SPECIAL RULE.**—The Corporation may continue to fund a program which has failed to meet or exceed the performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established under this subsection for up to 12 months if competition does not result in a successor grant or contract for such program, in order to minimize the disruption to volunteers and

disruption of services. In such a case, outreach shall be conducted and a new competition shall be established. The previous recipient shall remain eligible for the new competition.

“(6) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established under this subsection may be updated or modified as necessary, in consultation with program directors for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, but no earlier than fiscal year 2013.

“(B) OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS.—Effective for fiscal years before fiscal year 2013, the Corporation may, after consulting with program directors of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, determine that a performance measure, outcome, or criterion established under this subsection is operationally problematic, and may, in consultation with program directors of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and after notifying the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate—

“(i) eliminate the use of that performance measure, outcome, or criterion; or

“(ii) modify that performance measure, outcome, or criterion as necessary to render it no longer operationally problematic.

“(g) ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE.—The Corporation shall develop and disseminate an online resource guide for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, which shall include, but not be limited to—

“(1) examples of high performing programs;

“(2) corrective actions for underperforming programs; and

“(3) examples of meaningful outcome-based performance measures that capture a program's mission and priorities.

“(h) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Corporation shall submit, by 2012, to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on—

“(1) the number of programs that did not meet or exceed the established performance measures, outcomes, and other criteria established under subsection (f);

“(2) the number of new grants awarded;

“(3) the challenges to the implementation of evaluation and competition, including but not limited to geographic distribution and the minimization of disruption to volunteers; and

“(4) how the current program geographic distribution affects recruitment for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.”

Page 176, line 18, strike “family management skills” and all that follows through “children” on line 23 and insert “and family management skills”.

Page 180, strike line 8 and all that follows through page 181, line 19, and insert the following:

SEC. 2210. AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR.

Section 231 (42 U.S.C. 5028) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED.—The Director is authorized to—

“(A) make grants to or enter into contracts with public or nonprofit organizations, including organizations funded under part A, B, or C, for the purposes of demonstrating innovative activities involving older Americans as volunteers; and

“(B) make incentive grants under subsection (d).

“(2) SUPPORT OF VOLUNTEERS.—The Director may support under this part both volun-

teers receiving stipends and volunteers not receiving stipends.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(A)”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “activities;” and inserting “activities described in section 225(b) and carried out through programs described in parts A, B, and C;”;

(C) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

“(2) programs that support older Americans in aging in place while augmenting the capacity of members of a community to serve each other through reciprocal service centers, service credit banking, community economic scripts, barter services, timebanking, and other similar programs where services are exchanged and not paid for; or

“(3) grants to non-profit organizations to establish sites or programs to—

“(A) assist retiring or retired individuals in locating opportunities for—

“(i) public service roles, including through paid or volunteer service;

“(ii) participating in life-planning programs, including financial planning and issues revolving around health and wellness; and

“(iii) continuing education, including leadership development, health and wellness, and technological literacy; and

“(B) connect retiring or retired individuals with members of the community to serve as leaders and mentors in life planning, relationships, employment counseling, education counseling, and other areas of expertise as developed by the retiring or retired adults.”;

and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PRIORITY.—For purposes of subsection (b)(2), priority shall be given to—

“(1) programs with established experience in carrying out such a program and engaging the entire community in service exchange;

“(2) programs with the capacity to connect to similar programs throughout a city or region to augment the available services to older Americans and for members of the community to serve each other;

“(3) programs seeking to establish in an area where needs of older Americans are left unmet and older Americans are unable to consider aging in place without such service exchange in place; and

“(4) programs that integrate participants in or collaborate with service-learning programs, AmeriCorps State and National programs, the VISTA program, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Foster Grandparents program, and the Senior Companion programs, and programs described in section 411 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3032).

“(d) INCENTIVE GRANTS.—The incentive grants referred to in subsection (a)(1)(B) are incentive grants to programs receiving assistance under this title, subject to the following:

“(1) Such grants (which may be fixed-amount grants) shall be grants in an amount equal to \$300 per volunteer enrolled in the program, except that such amount shall be reduced as necessary to meet the goals of this section.

“(2) Such a grant shall be awarded to a program only if the program—

“(A) exceeds performance measures established under section 179 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990;

“(B) provides non-Federal matching funds in an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the amount received by the program under this title;

“(C) enrolls more than 50 percent of the volunteers in outcome-based service pro-

grams with measurable objectives meeting community needs, as determined by the Corporation; and

“(D) enrolls more volunteers from among members of the Baby Boom generation, as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, than were enrolled in the program during the previous fiscal year.

“(3) For each such grant, the Corporation shall require the recipient to provide matching funds of 70 cents from non-Federal sources for every \$1 provided under the grant.

“(4) Such a grant shall be awarded to a program only if the program submits, at such time and in such manner as the Corporation may reasonably require, an application that contains—

“(A) a demonstration that the program has met the requirements of paragraph (2);

“(B) if applicable, a plan for innovative programs as described in paragraph (6)(B)(ii);

“(C) a sustainability plan that describes how the program will maintain the activities described in paragraph (6) when the grant terminates; and

“(D) other information that the Corporation may require.

“(5) Such grants shall be awarded for a period of 3 years, except that the grant shall be reviewed by the Corporation at the end of the first and second fiscal years and revoked if the Corporation finds that the program has failed to continue to meet the requirements of paragraph (2) for those fiscal years.

“(6) Such grants—

“(A) shall be used to increase the number of volunteers in outcome-based service with measurable objectives meeting community needs as determined by the Corporation; and

“(B) may be used—

“(i) for activities for which the program is authorized to receive assistance under this title; and

“(ii) for innovative programs focused on the Baby Boom generation, as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, that have been accepted by the Corporation through the application process in paragraph (4) and are outcome-based programs with measurable objectives meeting community needs as determined by the Corporation.

“(7) The Director shall, in making such grants, give high priority to programs receiving assistance under section 201.”

Page 191, after line 19, insert the following:

(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsections (a) and (b) do not apply to the amendments made by this Act to section 201 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5001). Any changes pursuant to those amendments apply as specified in those amendments.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak to the manager's amendment to H.R. 2857, Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act, the GIVE Act.

As chairwoman of the Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee, I am pleased to offer a bipartisan manager's amendment to H.R. 2857. I am also pleased to say that the administration and the service community support the GIVE Act.

I would like to again thank Chairman MILLER for his continued support

and work on this reauthorization. I would also like to extend my thanks to the ranking member of our committee, Mr. MCKEON, for his work. Finally, I would like to thank the ranking member of my subcommittee, Mr. PLATTS, for his work on this reauthorization.

I also would like to thank the staff who have worked many hours on the bill. For the majority, Deborah Koolbeck, Denise Forte, and Alexander Ceja, and for the minority, Brad Thomas and Susan Ross.

This amendment increases the ability of the Corporation for National and Community Service to tap into the pool of potential volunteers, which gives us a better opportunity to meet challenges facing our Nation's communities today.

Some of the changes in the manager's amendment include: the amendment improves the reach and capacity of the Summer of Service. This program is aimed to increase civil responsibility and community service among 5th-12th graders through summer service-learning programs. Getting younger kids involved in service is a good investment. Studies show that the earlier we get folks involved in the volunteer service the more likely they will stay in for their lifetime.

We have improved the National Civilian Conservation Corps, or the NCCC. This valuable program has a focus on disaster preparation. NCCC and volunteers have helped during disasters like Katrina. Because of the disaster focus, there is a need for supervisors and training instructors with a background in law enforcement, rescue and emergency and disaster preparedness. The amendment allows retired law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel to be part of the management of the NCCC.

My amendment makes the Retired Senior Volunteer Program a competitive grant program by 2013. I believe competition spurs innovation, and this will strengthen the program.

Also included in this amendment are incentive grants for the Senior Corps program. These grants are designed to bolster the capacity of current exceptional Senior Corps programs.

Given that the RSVP program is becoming a competitive process, it is expected that the RSVP programs which meet the eligibility requirements will be a majority of incentive grant applicants and recipients.

Finally, I have also worked with Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. SOUDER and have included changes that they suggested in the manager's amendment. I want to thank them for their great ideas.

Our national service laws were last authorized 15 years ago. We have worked with our colleagues across the aisle and with the service community to renew the spirit of service in our Nation through the GIVE Act.

I hope you will join me and support my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition to the amendment although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. I want to commend the ranking member for offering this manager's amendment which makes several very important changes to the GIVE Act.

Most importantly, this amendment includes the language that would allow the Corporation for National and Community Service to support individuals who fill national service positions in small organizations that do not receive AmeriCorps grants.

This language was originally proposed by Mr. SOUDER in committee, and the manager's amendment reflects the bipartisan approach and the bipartisan compromise that was reached to infuse more individual control and local flexibility into the national service programs.

Also, I would like to reference that this amendment injects fair competition into the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program by requiring all programs to be competitively reevaluated by fiscal year 2013. For too long, these programs have continued to receive funding without any effort to determine if those programs are successfully making a difference in their communities, and this amendment will ensure that this is no longer the case.

So, I urge a "yes" vote in support of the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. MCKEON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 2 offered by Mr. MCKEON: Page 50, strike lines 21 through 23 and insert the following:

(5) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "subsection (b) or (d) of"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) PRIORITY FOR VETERANS.—Priorities established under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall include priorities for programs that—

"(i) recruit veterans, particularly returning veterans, into service opportunities;

"(ii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a member of the family is deployed; and

"(iii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment."; and

Page 64, strike line 23 and all that follows through page 65, line 10, and insert the following:

(3) in subsection (d), in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), strike "the Corporation may include—" and insert "the Corporation—"; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (G) and inserting the following:

"(A) shall include national service programs that—

"(i) recruit veterans, particularly returning veterans, into service opportunities;

"(ii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a member of the family is deployed; and

"(iii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment; and

"(B) may include—

"(i) national service programs that conform to the national service priorities in effect under section 122(d);

"(ii) innovative national service programs;

"(iii) national service programs that are well established in one or more States at the time of the application and are proposed to be expanded to additional States using assistance provided under section 121;

"(iv) grant programs in support of other national service programs if the grant programs are to be conducted by nonprofit organizations with a demonstrated and extensive expertise in the provision of services to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs; and

"(v) professional corps programs described in section 122(a)(8)."

Page 85, after line 3, insert the following new section:

SEC. 1406. REPORT ON VETERANS SERVING IN APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

Subtitle D of title I (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 150. REPORT ON VETERANS SERVING IN APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall report annually to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate the number and percentage of veterans serving in approved national service positions.

"(b) ANNUAL GOALS.—In the report described in subsection (a), the Corporation shall outline strategies and goals for increasing the number and percentage of veterans serving in approved national service positions each year, including strategies being undertaken to recruit veterans to serve in such positions, and include an evaluation of progress in meeting such goals."

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment which will enhance the GIVE Act by codifying our commitment to ensuring veterans can serve and be served within our national service programs.

The purpose of my amendment is to acknowledge the patriotism, commitment, and sacrifice made by members of the military and their families. In return for their service to our Nation, the least we can do is make sure that our national service programs are able to benefit veterans and military families.

On a bipartisan basis, the Education and Labor Committee chose to incorporate support for veterans in the GIVE Act. My amendment is a natural extension of that theme, and I hope it will garner the same bipartisan agreement as the underlying bill.

Already, the GIVE Act seeks to increase opportunities for veterans to serve and to increase the number of national service programs responding to the needs of veterans under AmeriCorps. My amendment enhances that effort by prioritizing services for and service by veterans throughout all of our national service programs.

The bill before us includes a set-aside within AmeriCorps to support programs for veterans. In addition, the bill includes a study of how veterans are served and how they can be served more effectively. These are positive first steps, but my amendment goes further. Under my amendment, the Corporation will be required to place a priority on applications that serve veterans or recruit veterans to serve. Rather than a fixed set-aside within a single program, this amendment will allow us to broaden the reach of service by and in support of veterans.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is required to establish priorities when funding national service initiatives. This ensures a targeted, effective investment. Under my amendment, included among those priorities would be an emphasis on programs that recruit veterans into service opportunities, promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a family member is deployed, and promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of a family returns from a deployment.

In addition, this amendment requires the Corporation to report to Congress on its efforts to increase the number of veterans serving in AmeriCorps and other positions that are eligible for the education award.

Veterans, particularly those recently deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, deserve opportunities to reintegrate into their communities through service programs funded under the national service laws. This amendment will increase those opportunities.

Without this amendment, we will not have the necessary information to effectively increase veteran participation in national service positions or provide an educational award in exchange for citizen service.

At a time when our service men and women are sacrificing on our behalf around the world, we should be doing

all we can to repay that sacrifice. My amendment will make it the explicit policy of the Federal Government to encourage the national service programs to focus more on the unique needs of those heroes and their families, and to encourage more veterans to take advantage of service opportunities under these laws.

The GIVE Act is a solid, bipartisan reform package that will strengthen our national service laws to make them more accountable, efficient, and cost effective.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition, but I am not opposing the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. One of the themes of the GIVE Act is to increase opportunities for veterans to serve in national service programs and to increase the amount of national service programs responding to the needs of veterans.

At committee, two amendments were adopted to address these issues. First, we directed the Corporation to reserve 3 percent of funds allotted to AmeriCorps for competitive grant programs that focus on veterans, particularly those that are recently returned from a deployment, and their families. The second amendment required the Corporation to conduct a study of how the national service laws would better serve veterans and increase veteran participation and service, and to create a pilot program based on that study.

This amendment builds up on those efforts. Under current law, States and corporations are charged with establishing priorities to determining the types of programs to be assisted under the national service law. This amendment would require States and the Corporation to include priorities for veterans when establishing priorities for the distribution of assistance under these programs.

Those priorities would be geared towards programs that recruit veterans into service opportunities, promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a family member is deployed, and promote community-based efforts to meet the unique service of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment.

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In addition, this amendment encourages the corporation to report to Congress on its efforts to increase the number of veterans serving in AmeriCorps and other positions that are eligible for the educational award. Veterans, particularly those recently deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, deserve opportunities to reintegrate into their communities through service pro-

grams funded under the national service laws. This amendment will increase those opportunities.

At a time when our servicemen and -women are sacrificing on behalf of our country around the world, we should be doing all we can to repay that sacrifice. This amendment will make it the explicit policy of the Federal Government to encourage national service programs to focus more on the unique needs of these heroes and their families and to encourage more veterans to take advantage of service opportunities under these laws.

I certainly urge its passage, and I thank Mr. McKEON for offering this. It's a very good piece added to our legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank subcommittee Chair, Mrs. MCCARTHY, and ranking member, Mr. PLATTS, for their hard work on this bill. It's a good, bipartisan effort. I thank them for their help on this amendment. I urge the amendment be supported by our colleagues.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. MATSUI

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 110-539.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 3 offered by Ms. MATSUI:

Page 56, strike lines 8 through 12 and insert the following:

“(C) ALLOTMENT FOR COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 121(a) for a fiscal year and subject to section 133(d)(3), the Corporation shall reserve up to 62.7 percent for grants awarded on a competitive basis to States for national service programs and to nonprofit organizations seeking to operate a national service program in 2 or more States.”

Page 56, strike lines 13 through 17. In such section 129, as proposed to be added by such section 1306, strike subsection (d) and redesignate subsections (e) through (k) as (d) through (j), respectively.

Page 56, line 18, redesignate (e) as (d).

Page 57, line 6, strike “37.5 percent” and insert “35.3 percent”.

Page 57, line 15, redesignate (f) as (e).

Page 58, lines 7 and 12, redesignate (g) and (h) as (f) and (g), respectively.

Page 59, lines 1 and 20, redesignate (i) and (j) as (h) and (i), respectively.

Page 63, line 3, strike “and” at the end.

Page 63, line 5, add “and” at the end.

Page 63, after line 5, add the following:

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) In the case of a nonprofit organization operating programs in 2 or more States, a description of the manner and extent to which the State Commissions of each State in which the nonprofit organization intends to

operate were consulted and the nature of the consultation."

Page 64, after line 13, add the following:

SEC. 1308A. NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS.

Section 131(c)(3) (42 U.S.C. 12583(c)(3)) is amended to read as follows:

"(3) in the case of a program that is not funded through a State, including programs operated by nonprofit organizations seeking to operate a national service program in 2 or more States—

"(A) consult with and coordinate with the State Commission for the State in which the program operates; and

"(B) obtain written confirmation from the State Commission that the applicant seeking assistance under this Act has consulted with and coordinated with the State Commission when seeking to operate a program in that State."

Page 64, line 21, strike "and" at the end.

Page 65, line 10, strike the period at the end and insert "; and".

Page 65, after line 10, add the following:

(3) by amending subsection (d)(3) to read as follows:

"(3) **ADDITIONAL PRIORITY.**—In making a competitive distribution under section 129(c), the Corporation—

"(A) shall solicit and consider the view of a State Commission regarding any application for assistance to operate a national service program within the State; and

"(B) may give priority to a national service program that is—

"(i) proposed in an application submitted by a State Commission; and

"(ii) not one of the types proposed in paragraph (2),

if the State Commission provides an adequate explanation of the reasons why it should not be a priority of such State to carry out any of such types of programs in the State."

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from California (Ms. MATSUI) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to offer a bipartisan amendment to the GIVE Act. The Matsui-Shays amendment makes needed changes to national service and carries with it broad support. Our amendment will combine the two separate State competitive funds and national competitive funds into one singular funding pool. This change will improve national service efficiency and effectiveness, while increasing collaboration between State and national interests.

Every year organizations and the individuals they support are turned away from the grants they need because of high demand or simple administrative burdens. The current funding formula gives approximately one-third of the funding to the States based on population, approximately one-third to State competitive grants, and approximately one-third to a national competitive funding pool. Under the current formula, a high demand for State competitive grants means that State grant applicants are turned away even if there are resources still available in the national pool and vice versa.

Additionally, these deserving nonprofits and community service organi-

zations spend far too many of their valuable resources navigating a confusing applications process and managing multiple grants. If this amendment passes, these precious resources will now be used to better serve their communities.

At its heart the amendment ensures that grants are competitively distributed based on merit and that resources are used in the most efficient and effective manner.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join Congressman SHAYS and myself, as well as the Governor-appointed State service commissions, national service organizations, leading nonprofits, and Members from both sides of the aisle in support of this valuable amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment although I am not opposed to it.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of the amendment and commend the maker of the amendment for helping to want to bring more competition to the process of the grants being awarded and more cooperation between the national and the State organizations. I'm aware that the National Governors Association has indicated its support for this amendment and the end result will be a stronger program, a program that is really more about less administrative costs and more dollars flowing to the programs that are going to make a difference in our communities, whether it be national or State.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, at this point I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY), the chairwoman of the subcommittee.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I thank the gentlewoman from California, and I thank Mr. SHAYS.

Mr. Chairman, we are in full support of this amendment. The GIVE Act seeks to improve national service and to do so in innovative, creative ways. And this amendment does just that. We are grateful to Ms. MATSUI and Mr. SHAYS for bringing forth this amendment.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to associate myself with the remarks earlier from the gentleman from Connecticut, who spoke in favor of this amendment during his previous statement, and again to ask all Members to support this amendment when it is put before us for a vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, again I urge my colleagues to support the Matsui-Shays amendment.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Congresswoman MATSUI and the Committee on Education and Labor for all of their hard work on bringing H.R. 2857 to the floor today. I would also like to thank the work and dedication of Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member MCKEON, Subcommittee Chairwoman DAVIS, and Subcommittee Ranking Member PLATTS.

I believe national service is one of the most productive, cost effective investments our government can make.

Since the inception of the Corporation for National and Community Service, of which I was a co-author, more than 1 billion service hours have been generated by Senior Corps volunteers, more than 40,000 individuals have served through AmeriCorps, and more than 1 million high school students have participated annually in service-learning initiatives.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks, natural disasters like Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the increasing achievement gap in education, the call to serve is louder than ever.

Our amendment will revise and improve the funding formula for AmeriCorps, which engages more than 40,000 Americans in service throughout the Nation, by combining State and national competitive funding streams.

National service programs throughout the country believe this change will provide a better means of allocating this funding and will bring the highest quality programs to States.

The change will also enable States to compete for more funding and provide States with more choices of programs.

Community service is about helping people, and it is also about gaining deeper understanding of each other and the world around us.

Through service, Americans of all ages gain a sense of commitment to their communities and their country, which will prove valuable for the rest of their lives.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment in order to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of this valuable program.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. McDERMOTT

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 4 offered by Mr. McDERMOTT:

At the end of the bill, add the following new title:

TITLE VI—CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON CIVIC SERVICE

SEC. 6101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Congressional Commission on Civic Service Act".

SEC. 6102. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The social fabric of the United States is stronger if individuals in the United States

are committed to protecting and serving our Nation by utilizing national service and volunteerism to overcome our civic challenges.

(2) A more engaged civic society will strengthen the Nation by bringing together people from diverse backgrounds and experiences to work on solutions to some of our Nation's major challenges.

(3) Despite declines in civic health in the past 30 years, national service and volunteerism among the Nation's youth are increasing, and existing national service and volunteer programs greatly enhance opportunities for youth to engage in civic activity.

(4) In addition to the benefits received by nonprofit organizations and society as a whole, volunteering and national service provide a variety of personal benefits and satisfaction and can lead to new paths of civic engagement, responsibility, and upward mobility.

SEC. 6103. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is established in the legislative branch a commission to be known as the "Congressional Commission on Civic Service" (in this title referred to as the "Commission").

SEC. 6104. DUTIES.

(a) GENERAL PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Commission is to gather and analyze information in order to make recommendations to Congress to—

(1) improve the ability of individuals in the United States to serve others and, by doing so, to enhance our Nation and the global community;

(2) train leaders in public service organizations to better utilize individuals committed to national service and volunteerism as they manage human and fiscal resources;

(3) identify and offer solutions to the barriers that make it difficult for some individuals in the United States to volunteer or perform national service; and

(4) build on the foundation of service and volunteer opportunities that are currently available.

(b) SPECIFIC TOPICS.—In carrying out its general purpose under subsection (a), the Commission shall address and analyze the following specific topics:

(1) The level of understanding about the current Federal, State, and local volunteer programs and opportunities for service among individuals in the United States.

(2) The issues that deter volunteerism and national service, particularly among young people, and how the identified issues can be overcome.

(3) Whether there is an appropriate role for Federal, State, and local governments in overcoming the issues that deter volunteerism and national service and, if appropriate, how to expand the relationships and partnerships between different levels of government in promoting volunteerism and national service.

(4) Whether existing databases are effective in matching community needs to would-be volunteers and service providers.

(5) The effect on the Nation, on those who serve, and on the families of those who serve, if all individuals in the United States were expected to perform national service or were required to perform a certain amount of national service.

(6) Whether a workable, fair, and reasonable mandatory service requirement for all able young people could be developed, and how such a requirement could be implemented in a manner that would strengthen the social fabric of the Nation and overcome civic challenges by bringing together people from diverse economic, ethnic, and educational backgrounds.

(7) The need for a public service academy, a 4-year institution that offers a federally

funded undergraduate education with a focus on training future public sector leaders.

(8) The means to develop awareness of national service and volunteer opportunities at a young age by creating, expanding, and promoting service options for primary and secondary school students and by raising awareness of existing incentives.

(9) The effectiveness of establishing a training program on college campuses to recruit and educate college students for national service.

(10) The effect on United States diplomacy and foreign policy interests of expanding service opportunities abroad, such as the Peace Corps, and the degree of need and capacity abroad for an expansion.

(11) The constraints that service providers, nonprofit organizations, and State and local agencies face in utilizing federally funded volunteer programs, and how these constraints can be overcome.

(12) Whether current Federal volunteer programs are suited to address the special skills and needs of senior volunteers, and if not, how these programs can be improved such that the Federal government can effectively promote service among the "baby boomer" generation.

(c) METHODOLOGY.—

(1) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—The Commission shall conduct public hearings in various locations around the United States.

(2) REGULAR AND FREQUENT CONSULTATION.—The Commission shall regularly and frequently consult with an advisory panel of Members of Congress appointed for such purpose by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Majority Leader of the Senate.

SEC. 6105. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 8 members appointed as follows:

(A) 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(B) 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(C) 2 members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

(D) 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The members of the Commission shall consist of individuals who are of recognized standing and distinction in the areas of international public service, national public service, service-learning, local service, business, or academia.

(3) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this title.

(4) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Commission shall be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives at the time of the appointment.

(b) TERMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Commission shall serve for the life of the Commission.

(2) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the duties of the Commission but any such vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(c) COMPENSATION.—

(1) RATES OF PAY; TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall serve without pay, except that each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) PROHIBITION OF COMPENSATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), any member of the Commission

who is a full-time officer or employee of the United States may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits because of service on the Commission.

(d) MEETING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) FREQUENCY.—

(A) QUARTERLY MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at least quarterly.

(B) ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.—In addition to quarterly meetings, the Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson or a majority of its members.

(2) QUORUM.—5 members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(3) MEETING BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY.—Members of the Commission are permitted to meet using telephones or other suitable telecommunications technologies provided that all members of the Commission can fully communicate with all other members simultaneously.

SEC. 6106. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF COMMISSION; EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.

(a) DIRECTOR.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Chairperson with the approval of the Commission.

(2) CREDENTIALS.—The Director shall have credentials related to international public service, national public service, service-learning, or local service.

(3) SALARY.—The Director shall be paid at a rate determined by the Chairperson with the approval of the Commission, except that the rate may not exceed the rate of basic pay for GS-15 of the General Schedule.

(b) STAFF.—With the approval of the Chairperson, the Director may appoint and fix the pay of additional qualified personnel as the Director considers appropriate.

(c) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the approval of the Commission, the Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay for GS-15 of the General Schedule.

(d) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request of the Commission, Chairperson, or Director, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out its duties under this title.

SEC. 6107. POWERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this title, hold public hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

(b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any member or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this section.

(c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—Upon request of the Chairperson, the head of any department or agency shall furnish information to the Commission that the Commission deems necessary to enable it to carry out this title.

(d) PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.—The Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the appropriate entities in the legislative branch, shall locate and provide suitable facilities and equipment for the operation of the Commission on a nonreimbursable basis.

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon the request of the Commission, the Architect of the Capitol and the Administrator

of General Services shall provide to the Commission on a nonreimbursable basis such administrative support services as the Commission may request in order for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this title.

SEC. 6108. REPORTS.

(a) **INTERIM REPORT.**—The Commission shall submit an interim report on its activities to Congress not later than 20 months after the date of the enactment of this title.

(b) **FINAL REPORT.**—

(1) **DEADLINE.**—The Commission shall submit a final report on its activities to Congress not later than 120 days after the submission of the interim report under subsection (a).

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The final report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission, together with its recommendations for proposed legislation.

SEC. 6109. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate not later than 30 days after submitting its final report under section 6108(b)(1).

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chairman, when Katharine Lee Bates wrote "America the Beautiful" in 1893, I believe her poetic lyrics were intended to express the goodness of the American people as much as the natural beauty of our great Nation. America was founded on the concept of helping one another, and that selfless spirit expresses itself in countless acts of goodness by ordinary Americans every day.

I want to harness that American spirit, and I want to make it a part of the American experience. Mr. FARR, Mr. WALSH, and Mr. SHAYS have joined me in putting this amendment together, and we had a bill previously, because we believe that making this possible for every American is really where we ought to be.

We all benefit in countless ways from a Nation that is our home. I believe we owe something in return. But there are countless ways for every American to serve and give back to America, and America certainly could use their help. That's why we put this together as an amendment to establish a Congressional Commission on Civic Service.

We want this commission to investigate ways to create a broader commitment to national service in order to strengthen our common sense of responsibility to our community, our Nation, and to each other.

The commission would hold hearings around the country to engage the American people and get their own ideas. Whether it's in schools or nursing homes or prisons or mental hospitals or in the forests or cleaning up beaches or whatever, we want to talk to the local people. The commission would report to Congress with recommendations on how to harness the power of one, that is, the power of American people to improve our Nation.

Our amendment is a first step. It is simply an authorization, and the Congress will need to follow up with an appropriation. It mirrors the legislation we introduced last year, H.R. 1819.

Throughout the process, we have worked closely with some of America's best organizations: Voices for Service Coalition, the National Peace Corps Association, Corporation for National and Community Service, and the State AmeriCorps Administrators.

President John Kennedy once said: "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." From that came the Peace Corps and other organizations similar, and we want to recreate that sense of American expectation in this time. With this amendment we want to help America answer that question and the call.

Today America needs the American people like never before to meet the challenges of a slowing economy, health care, education, conservation. The government can't do it all, and ordinary Americans can and in many cases already do much of it.

It's time to build on the success of our national service programs like AmeriCorps by considering bold proposals that compel, inspire, and enable us to tackle the challenges, big and small, that will always confront us. There is no shortage of ideas.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I do plan on supporting this amendment and appreciate the intended maker of the amendment. And to make sure that we are being thorough in our approach to this important issue, I do want to express just some reservation that we don't duplicate the efforts of the subcommittee and the work of the subcommittee or the corporation itself in exploring the ideals of public service, but I will be supporting it and encourage a "yes" vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. McCARTHY).

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. I thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) for yielding.

We support this amendment. We look forward to the results of the commission as we continue to increase the number of Americans who participate in national service and work to overcome challenges in our Nation's communities.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chairman, I am waiting for Mr. FARR, but we will see if he gets here in time.

The recommendations produced by this commission would be a plan of ac-

tion because it will look at three key areas: to improve the ability of Americans to serve, to improve our community here and abroad. It will also identify and offer solutions to the barriers that make it difficult to perform national service and volunteer. And, finally, we will look at ways to build the foundation of service opportunities that are currently available.

According to the data collected from the Census Bureau, Americans over the age of 16 are volunteering at an historically high rate with 61.2 million, giving their time in 2006 to help others by mentoring students, beautifying neighborhoods, and restoring homes after disasters.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Congressman McDERMOTT and Congressman FARR, Congresswoman MATSUI and the Committee on Education and Labor for all of their hard work on bringing this reauthorization to the floor today.

This amendment establishes a Congressional Commission on Civil Service. The Commission would identify ways to expand opportunities for volunteerism and national service in America. It would also recommend ways Federal and local governments can improve awareness and access to national service opportunities, encourage increased volunteerism and better train future public service leaders.

I believe national service is one of the most productive, cost-effective investments our Government can make.

I am pleased this amendment addresses the need for a public service academy, a federally-funded 4-year institution dedicated to training the future leaders of our country's public service sector. In the next 10 years, 90 percent of our nation's Federal executives will be over the age of 50 and nearing retirement. We need to ensure that this workforce is replaced with well-trained, invigorated graduates.

Investing in service opportunities provides enormous returns to communities.

There is no substitute for the passion of our Nation's volunteers, who can be found mentoring students, building houses, assisting senior citizens or beautifying our national parks.

Community service is about helping people, and it is also about gaining deeper understanding of each other and the world around us.

Through service, Americans of all ages gain a sense of commitment to their communities and their country which will prove valuable for the rest of their lives.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment in order to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of this valuable program.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. ENGLISH OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 5 offered by Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

At the end of the bill, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

TITLE VI—SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 6101. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the Sense of Congress that the Corporation for National and Community Service should make the maximum effort possible to coordinate the recruiting and assignment procedures of their various programs to allow senior citizens and their grandchildren to share volunteer opportunities and/or be assigned to the same geographic areas during their period of service.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would add a section at the end of the bill to express a sense of Congress that the Corporation for National and Community Service should attempt to coordinate the recruiting and assignment procedures of their various programs to allow senior citizens and their grandchildren to share volunteer opportunities and be assigned to the same geographic areas during their period of service.

I would note, Mr. Chairman, Marian McQuade, the founder of National Grandparents Day and a homemaker from Fayette County, West Virginia, held as one of her primary motivations of her advocacy for a National Grandparents Day, persuading the grandchildren to tap the wisdom and heritage of their grandparents. This amendment builds on the principles that evolved into National Grandparents Day by creating more opportunities to build bridges on an intergenerational basis and strengthen the family structure. This amendment will honor grandparents and enhance the bond between grandparents and grandchildren while encouraging a lifetime of community service.

□ 1230

It seems somehow fundamental that AmeriCorps and Senior Corps work together to bring grandparents and grandchildren together to share memorable and rewarding experiences of community service together, strengthen bonds of family, and make the lives of fellow citizens brighter.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this amendment today. This is a remedy for many of the pressures that we feel today on families, it's an attempt to unite generations, and it's an attempt to better coordinate two very important programs in the interest of fostering stronger families.

Mr. Chairman, I would retain the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I rise to claim time in opposition, but I am not opposing the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Thank you.

We support this amendment, as it seeks to support the fostering of service among generations of a family. It is easy to imagine the kind of benefits that grandparents and their grandchildren would gain by not only spending time together, but serving others. The earlier children are introduced to service, the more likely they will volunteer throughout their life.

Speaking as a grandparent, and I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) for introducing this, when I take my grandchildren with me and I try to explain the work that I do, and to see them get involved and be interested in the work that I do I think is a great thing.

The volunteering work that we do, and we bring the grandchildren with us, it opens up their eyes for a number of reasons. A lot of the work that we do is serving in underserved areas and to be able to see that these young children, my grandchildren, 7 and 9, are out there in the community and seeing children less fortunate than them. But to take it back even then to their classroom and say maybe we can do something, when you have Grandparents Day in school with your grandchildren, and you're fostering the sense of volunteerism.

So I thank the gentleman very much for bringing this to our attention. I certainly am in full support of it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. ENGLISH OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 6 offered by Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

At the end of the bill, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

TITLE VI—SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 6101. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the Sense of Congress that the Corporation for National and Community Service should make the maximum effort possible to coordinate with the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide opportunities for young people enrolled in NACS programs to collect oral histories from senior citizens in the communities where they serve.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman

from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment creates a sense of the Congress that the Corporation for National and Community Service should make the maximum effort possible to coordinate with the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide opportunities for young people enrolled in national and community service programs to collect oral histories from senior citizens in the communities that they serve.

As cochairman of the Congressional Humanities Caucus, I have been actively advocating policies and programs to raise awareness of the role of history, literature, languages, and other humanities in Americans' lives. As we all know, studying our history, our culture, and our heritage can help provide a framework to guide our decisions as we confront challenging issues facing us now and into the future. It also gives us a national memory.

If we look back to the experience during World War II when the Federal Government employed many writers to do histories of local communities that now have become an important resource to us, recognizing that we are at a time when our greatest generation is now moving on and the opportunity to consult them could very well be lost in the near future, this is an opportunity that we must seize.

As we all know, studying our history, our culture, and our heritage can be an important part of our future defining of who we are. We not only learn from museums and books, but we also learn from those who have lived in the past. For that reason, I think it's important for our youth to reach out to our knowledgeable elders who have lived through tougher times, who have fought and seen wars, and who have seen the transformation of America.

Close to 1,000 World War II veterans die each day. Many have never spoken of their experiences. During a time in their lives where many are lonely and yearning for an opportunity to have an exchange, this creates an opportunity for us to capture those memories and institutionalize them.

To carry on the American tradition and living history, I urge the support of my colleagues for this amendment today.

Mr. Chairman, I retain the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition, but I am not opposing the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. We support this amendment, as it continues to support the integration of

priority for national service. Everyone gains when they speak to others from a different generation and learn how things have changed over the years. And yet, at the same time, how many things remain the same.

Fostering communication between people increases the connection for all of the community. This piece will add a section to the bill that is the sense of Congress that the Corporation for National and Community Service should make the maximum effort possible to coordinate with the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide opportunities for young people enrolled in NACS programs to collect oral histories from senior citizens in the communities they serve.

With that, I would like to yield 2 minutes to Mr. ANTHONY WEINER from New York.

Mr. WEINER. I thank the sponsors of this legislation and of the amendment.

I think this is an opportunity for us to expand on the notion that many Americans already support, and that is the idea that Americans very much want to be asked to help, they want to be asked to volunteer, they want to be asked to serve. Despite the conventional wisdom about growing apathy in the country, studies have actually shown that almost 30 percent did volunteer work in 2006, up dramatically since 1989, the last time the survey was asked.

We found when asked is government, is Washington, is our country asking enough of us, overwhelmingly Americans say no, we are not being asked to do enough. Unlike the period after Pearl Harbor when FDR famously called us all to this national sense of calling, we failed to do it. The bill that we have today hopefully will reverse that to some degree and get more people involved doing more things.

One of the things the bill does that is most laudable is expands outreach to let cities, localities, and organizations know the program has grown much more flexible over the course of years. I believe that cities should be thinking about their own version of kind of a city version of AmeriCorps, addressing specific problems, maybe not as general as the AmeriCorps program is, where we have many people going, doing discrete individual things, but create programs that cities say let's try to tackle the problem of child hunger, let's try to tackle the problem of affordability. This type of a program would allow cities to take more control, something that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle support.

Not that long ago, I gave a speech in May, where I laid out a proposal in something I called AppleCorps, that New York City would come up with their program to take advantage. The idea would be if you get cities involved, maybe we can get them to put money in on top of what we in the Federal Government are offering to tackle those challenges that they face.

One thing is very clear, that when Roosevelt once famously asked, "Now

that we are in this war, we are all in it, all the way. Every single, man, woman, and child is a partner in the most tremendous undertaking of our American history. We must share together the bad news and the good news, the defeats and the victories." This bill seeks to do that.

Thank you very much for the time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment, which I think will go a long way to giving our next generation a sense of what our fathers and our forefathers have faced.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. ENGLISH OF PENNSYLVANIA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 7 offered by Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

Page 133, after line 19, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1708. COORDINATION WITH VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS SERVING VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES.

The Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service shall coordinate with veterans organizations serving veterans with disabilities to provide opportunities for young people enrolled in existing NACS programs to provide transportation services on a full-time, part-time, or as-needed basis.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, the freedom of the United States has depended on the courage of men and women in uniform for over 200 years. Our veterans, having served as a member of the greatest military in the world, can be assured that they have the appreciation and admiration of millions of Americans.

The experience gained from the U.S. military is without a doubt invaluable, and I applaud our veterans for the courage and the commitment that they have demonstrated consistently while serving our country.

With that said, I would like to offer this amendment, which will provide a valuable service to our veteran population while giving young volunteers

an opportunity to be exposed to some of these American heroes that have allowed us to exercise our everyday freedoms. Specifically, my amendment would require the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service to work with the Disabled American Veterans organization to provide opportunities for young people to serve as drivers in the DAV transportation network.

This new service will certainly help ease the burden on veterans throughout the country, especially in communities like mine and in yours, Mr. Chairman, in rural areas where we have many veterans who have a challenge getting the service that they need from our brick and mortar VA institutions, give them easy and convenient transportation to doctor appointments, physical therapy, and routine checkups.

Mr. Chairman, at a time when America's veterans are facing increased challenges regarding health care coverage and full access to the benefits that they have earned, Congress ought to embrace commonsense policies that will help ensure our veterans get the care they need and deserve.

In my part of Pennsylvania, Mr. Chairman, it has been a challenge to drum up the volunteers to provide driver service for many of our VA participants and clients. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this initiative that will help fill that gap and encourage more of our young people to volunteer to help some of our aging veterans and some of our younger veterans who happen to live a distance away from the institution that serves them.

Mr. Chairman, I retain the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition, but I am not opposing this amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I want to thank, again, my colleague Mr. ENGLISH from Pennsylvania for this amendment. This would require the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service to coordinate with veterans organizations serving veterans to provide opportunities for young people to enroll in existing NACS programs to serve as drivers in the DAV transportation network on a full-time, part-time, or as-needed basis. The reason we support this amendment, which is similar to Mr. McKEON's in a way, is that it will help serve our Nation's veterans. This amendment reminds us of the challenges faced by disabled veterans after they have devoutly served our Nation.

When I see a lot of my veterans back home in Long Island, a lot of them do volunteer their time on driving our veterans back and forth. We only have one veterans hospital on Long Island. A lot of these drivers are as old as

those they are driving. So to see that our young people, and I can see something like this, which would be terrific for our young college students and our seniors that are driving, to be able to be part of this.

It was earlier mentioned by Mr. SHAYS that with the war in Iraq, no one has asked Americans to be helpful. Well, this is a perfect time. This is where our young people can feel that all right, here we have our veterans that have done a gallant job on protecting this Nation. Help them now. Let us help them to get back and forth for their physical therapy or any treatments that they need.

It's also a wonderful opportunity for our young people to get to know our seniors and our veterans that have served this country. The more I think about this, I am sorry that we didn't think of this amendment while we were having our committee hearings. I think next time I will reach out to my colleague and say what ideas do you have so we can bring them to the committee.

So, again, I support this amendment. I think it's a terrific amendment. I think it's a wonderful time for our young people and our seniors and our veterans to get to know each other. They will actually find they have a lot more in common than they do have apart.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, let me just say in response to the gentlelady, I am most grateful for her support, and I am most grateful for her open-mindedness. Seeing the excellent work that she has done working on a bipartisan basis, and I want to also thank my colleague from Pennsylvania on this very important reauthorization. I am most grateful to them for their open-mindedness to some small refinements on what I think is a reauthorization of an enormously important program.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH).

The amendment was agreed to.

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AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MS. SUTTON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in House Report 110-539.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 8 offered by Ms. SUTTON:
Page 64, after line 16, insert the following:
(2) in subsection (c)(6), insert after subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) Areas that have a mortgage foreclosure rate greater than the national average mortgage foreclosure rate for the most recent 12 months for which satisfactory data are available.”.

Page 64, lines 17 and 22, redesignate (2) and (3) as (3) and (4), respectively.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, communities across this Nation are being devastated by home foreclosures, and my home State of Ohio has been particularly hard hit. This crisis has not stemmed from a single cause, and mitigating its effects will not be achieved with a single solution. Housing problems stem from predatory lending practices, job losses, and situations such as death, divorce and health emergencies.

It is important, Mr. Chairman, that we pursue innovative solutions to deal with this. This includes tying the provisions of Volunteerism and Service-Learning grants to programs that will serve areas that have been adversely affected by the mortgage crisis. This amendment would require the Corporation for National and Community Service to consider whether an area has a mortgage foreclosure rate greater than the national average when considering grant applications from States and other eligible entities.

In a time when so many of our communities are struggling, we need to pursue every avenue to make sure that the cities and towns with the greatest needs have access to the most assistance.

I urge a yes vote on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment and would associate myself with the maker of the amendment's statements regarding the importance of helping those who are facing challenges because of the housing crisis. This amendment recognizes that communities that are particularly hard hit by this crisis may be in need of special national service efforts. I thus support the amendment and encourage a yes vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY).

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague. Let me say that my colleague is having a problem with her voice with laryngitis, so I am actually going to be speaking

for her from her talking points. So I will continue talking about Ohio, which has been particularly hurt by the current mortgage foreclosure crisis.

In a ranking of metropolitan areas with the highest foreclosure rates, Ohio has the sad distinction of having four areas in the top 20. Northeast Ohio, which includes Lorain and Elyria in her district, had the sixth highest rate. Nearly 3 percent of all households in these cities are in some stage of foreclosure, a 112 percent jump from 2006. Akron came in at 12, Dayton at 15 and Toledo at 19.

The current subprime mortgage crisis has not stemmed from a single cause, and mitigating its effects will not be achieved with a single solution. Housing problems stem from predatory lending practices, job losses, and situations such as death, divorce and health emergencies. We must pursue innovative solutions, and this includes trying the provisions of volunteerism and Service-Learning grants to areas that have been adversely affected by the mortgage crisis.

This amendment would require the Corporation for National and Community Service to consider whether an area has a mortgage foreclosure rate greater than the national average when considering grant applications from States and other eligible entities.

Each year, more than 1.5 million individuals serve our country through the service programs that were created by the National and Community Service Act. In a time when so many of our communities are struggling, we need to pursue every avenue to make sure that the cities and towns with the greatest needs have access to the most assistance.

We expect this amendment is going to be noncontroversial, but they may argue that it is duplicative because of the factors that are already included. The areas affected by high foreclosure rates would likely also be areas with high concentrations of low-income persons and high unemployment rates. But when we look at this, we see that by including this additional factor we will focus the Corporation on awarding grant funding to programs that address the specific needs of communities affected by the foreclosure crisis.

When you look at this particular amendment, the Corporation for National and Community Service administers the National Service Trust Program, which provides funding for service programs, community groups, youth groups, service-lending, campus-based programs, pre-professional training programs and other services, one of the criteria the Corporation is required to consider when evaluating applications for funding is the extent to which projects would be conducted in the areas where they are needed most.

Factors already considered are communities designated as empowerment zones or redevelopment areas; targeted for special economic incentives; designated as having high concentrations

of low-income people; areas that are environmentally distressed; areas that are adversely affected by Federal actions related to the management of Federal lands that result in significant regional job losses and economic dislocation; areas adversely affected by reductions in defense spending or closure of bases; areas with unemployment rates greater than the national average for the 12 most recent months.

This amendment will add another factor that the Corporation must consider when determining what constitutes an area.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MS. SUTTON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 9 printed in House Report 110-539.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 9 offered by Ms. SUTTON:

Page 133, insert after line 19 the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1708. STUDY TO EXAMINE AND INCREASE SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR DISPLACED WORKERS IN SERVICES CORPS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TO DEVELOP PILOT PROGRAM PLANNING STUDY.

(a) **PLANNING STUDY.**—The Corporation for National and Community Service shall conduct a study to identify—

(1) specific areas of need for displaced workers;

(2) how existing programs and activities carried out under the national service laws could better serve displaced workers and communities that have been adversely affected by plant closings and job losses;

(3) prospects for better utilization of skilled workers as resources and volunteers; and

(4) methods for ensuring the efficient financial organization of services directed towards displaced workers.

(b) **CONSULTATION.**—The study shall be carried out in consultation with the Department of Labor, State labor agencies, and other individuals and entities the Corporation considers appropriate.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the planning study required by subsection (a), together with a plan for implementation of a pilot program using promising strategies and approaches for better targeting and serving displaced workers.

(d) **PILOT PROGRAM.**—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Corporation shall develop and carry out a pilot program based on the findings in the report submitted under subsection (c).

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentle-

woman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, as we heard with the last amendment, Ohio and many other States have suffered tremendous job losses in recent years. These workers and their families deserve our support, and they deserve creative and innovative thinking and policies from us as their representatives.

Programs such as AmeriCorps and Senior Corps have done so much to provide opportunities for our youth and seniors. It is time now that we investigate ways to provide similar opportunities for Americans who have lost jobs through no fault of their own.

This amendment would require the Corporation for National and Community Service to conduct a study to identify specific areas of need for displaced workers and how existing programs and activities carried out under our national service laws can better serve displaced workers and communities affected by plant closings and job losses. The amendment also requires the Corporation to develop and carry out a pilot program based on the findings of the study.

Mr. Chairman, workers who have toiled for so long in manufacturing plants have much to offer their communities with their unique skill sets and leadership capabilities. I look forward to seeing how new service programs would reinvigorate America's displaced workforce with a sense of new purpose, so that they may continue to explore new career opportunities and continue contributing to our communities.

I urge a yes vote on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I do rise in support of this amendment. This amendment is similar to a study and pilot program dealing with veterans that was authorized through an amendment that passed in the committee. While I hope that as this bill moves forward we do not end up with studies and pilot programs for so many different areas that we lose our focus on the bill's priorities, I do believe that it is appropriate activity for the corporation to undertake this effort.

In general, unemployment remains extremely low by historical standards, despite concerns about the economy. However, for those communities such as the maker of the amendment ref-

erenced in her home State of Ohio that are experiencing unusually high job losses, it would be wise to explore ways to target national service efforts towards addressing those concerns.

Therefore, I support the amendment, and encourage a yes vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the support of the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania. I thank him for his work on this bill. It is greatly appreciated by the people I represent. And to the distinguished chairwoman, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY), I also extend my appreciation, and I yield her such time as she may consume.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague from Ohio.

Good data collection is so important, because with data we can determine how to better implement programs and better serve the needs of our Nation's citizens. As workers must find ways to obtain new skills or transition into a new career, this study will provide us with important information. Service can be a bridge between one phase of life to another or from one career to another.

It is not a secret to anyone that Ms. SUTTON's home State of Ohio has suffered tremendous job losses in recent years. From the year 2000 to 2007, Ohio has lost more than 209,000 non-farm jobs, the biggest 7 year drop since the end of the Great Depression. These workers and families deserve our support, and they deserve creative and innovative thinking and policies from us as their representatives.

This study and pilot program require the Corporation for National and Community Service to examine how to use community service programs to provide opportunities for displaced workers. Programs such as AmeriCorps and Senior Corps have done so much to provide opportunities for our young and our seniors. It is time that we investigate ways to provide similar opportunities for Americans who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own.

Workers who have toiled for so long in manufacturing plants have much to offer their communities, and their unique skill sets and leadership capabilities should not go to waste when plants close. I look forward to seeing how new service programs would reinvigorate America's displaced workforce with a sense of purpose so they may explore new career opportunities and continue contributing to all their communities.

The Corporation for National and Community Service has proven itself to be an entrepreneurial, innovative and effective organization. This amendment will lead the Corporation in a new direction to consider how the programs they provide funding to can do better serve the needs of America's displaced workers.

Our national service laws provide funding for numerous worthy organizations such as AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Habitat for Humanity, City Year, Boys and Girls Club, Teach for America, and Youthbuild. This amendment will spur new programs that address the needs of our displaced workers and their families.

So, again I thank my colleague from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) for offering this amendment, and I am looking forward to working with her on other areas.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for being compassionate and expanding on the amendment. As she indicated, I have a little health issue I am dealing with here.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 10 offered by Mr. FLAKE:
Page 16, line 11, strike “; and” and insert a period.

Page 16, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 18, line 21.

Page 148, line 24, strike “\$65,000,000 for fiscal year 2008,” and all that follows through “; and” on page 149, line 4, and insert “\$45,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and”.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, Ronald Reagan once said, “No matter how big or powerful government gets and the many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers.” I believe that wholeheartedly. But listening to the debate today, you might easily conclude that volunteerism wasn’t discovered until Congress discovered it, and that the only meaningful service that anyone can provide is in a program sponsored by government. We all know that that is simply not the case.

In truth, the programs that are being talked about today, the government-sponsored programs, make up probably less than one-hundredth of 1 percent of all the volunteer activity that takes place across this country. But when we have community service and volunteer positions, when we end up financing them or providing incentives from government, it becomes just another government service.

□ 1300

The new Summer of Service grant program created by this legislation

gives incentives to community service work in the form of financial benefits at taxpayer expense. The amendment that I am offering today would simply strike all the language in the bill relating to the so-called Summer of Service program and reduce the authorization by \$20 million. This is the amount designated to the program.

The new Summer of Service program would award \$20 million annually for education awards for volunteer positions in which school-aged participants can earn up to \$1,000 for completion of a 100-hour community-based service-learning project.

Now, we are all familiar with volunteer service that goes on: churches, Rotary Clubs, Boy Scout organizations. In fact, this weekend, 2 days from now, my own son will be doing his Eagle project. He will provide up to 30 hours of service himself, and more than 100 hours will be provided by people that he has recruited to help him in his project. This kind of activity goes on every day, every minute of every day, every second of every day. And yet, we feel that we have to have new and more government programs somehow to prompt volunteer service. That, I think, sells people across this country short. People can volunteer on their own and do without benefits provided by government.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose this amendment. When the National Community Service Act was enacted in 1990, we saw powerful new opportunities to inspire civic engagement and transformation in our communities. Last year, AmeriCorps’ number reached 500,000, and today Learn and Serve Americans continue to support service learning for K-12 and college students making a vital connection between their academic studies and a real world application through their service.

Now, with the Summer of Service program, we can provide a new opening to reach many young people we know will benefit with the opportunities to spend a summer in service to their communities. It is a right of passage during grades 5-12.

Mr. Chairman, this program grants educational awards of up to \$500 to students who complete 100 hours of service over the summer months. By employing service-learning models to teach civic participation skills, the program will help young people serve their communities and expand educational opportunities for themselves and discourage what is commonly known as the summer academic slide.

Today, 10 million students nationwide between the ages of 12 and 18 have participated in school-based service.

Research shows that, among those students, teens from disadvantaged communities who serve hold more positive civic attitudes. Kids who engage in volunteering are more likely to be successful in school and avoid risky behaviors such as drugs, alcohol, and crime. Unfortunately, those disadvantaged teens who have so much to gain from the experience are less likely to volunteer than their peers from more advanced backgrounds.

When service is tied to what students are learning in school, young people make gains on achievement tests, complete their homework more often, and increase their grade point average. Students who engage in service learning improve communication skills, grow more aware of career possibilities, and develop more positive workplace attitudes, laying the foundation for America’s future leaders. Yet, Learn and Serve’s funding stayed the same at no more than \$43 million since 1996, and decreasing over the past several years. In Learn and Serve’s last grant award cycle, they had 506 applications but only the resources for 102 awards.

For generations, during times of great crisis and need throughout our Nation, students have stepped up and served their country and their communities. Today, again, our young people want to serve and are desperate to do their part, yet their call has gone unheard.

Since 2001, there have been nearly 50 proposals involving national service before Congress, and not one has been enacted. Here we have a program that demonstrates our commitment to that great promise. A modest investment in Summer of Service is an important and long overdue step in providing service-learning opportunities for young people to start.

We must do everything we can to help every child reach his or her full potential. We cannot teach our children until we honestly help them become engaged in their communities and give them the power to actively participate in their education. I urge a “no” vote on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield time to my colleague from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Chairman, I rise as well to oppose this amendment, which really overlooks the incredible positive impact that a summer of service can have on our youth.

The Summer of Service is a program which fills a policy gap which helps communities create positive alternatives for young teens. The middle school years in particular are extremely pivotal years for young people. Most youth are making the difficult transition from middle school to high school, and many of them have no organized activities during those periods when they are out of school. Many are left unsupervised and at risk of being engaged in potentially harmful activity. We want to engage them. We want to make sure that they have something to do.

I was recently, Mr. Chairman, at a conference held in Baltimore that is focusing on what some refer to as the summer learning slide or summer learning lost. Basically, what do you do to engage students over those summer months to make sure that you are complementing the educational opportunities that they have during the regular school year? And the Summer of Service is a perfect opportunity to do that and to support them so that continuum, that trajectory is always upward. It is not a kind of roller coaster where you get two steps forward and you slip one step back.

How our youth spend their time during the summer period may determine whether they embark on a course of active citizenship and civic engagement and engaged learning or whether they go down a different path. This was a conclusion of a conference that the White House convened in 2000 to look at the issues that are facing teenagers. The Summer of Service initiative will offer youth the chance to spend a summer in service to their communities. I urge that we vote against the Flake amendment that would eliminate the Summer of Service.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. FLAKE. May I inquire as to the time remaining on my side.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, this \$20 million program is being authorized under the Learn and Serve program. I would be glad to yield 30 seconds to the sponsor of this program or to the committee if I can find out if they actually studied whether this program is working as it is. It doesn't seem they are near the microphone, so I will read something from the Office of Management and Budget.

The Office of Management and Budget audited this program a while ago under the Learn and Serve program. The Learn and Serve program was audited to be not performing, results not demonstrated. The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, not performing. Ineffective. This is our own government telling us what our own programs are doing, and yet here we are under the Learn and Serve program authorizing \$20 million more for a new program without trying to go in and actually fix the old program or eliminate the old program.

We in Congress sometimes wonder why our authorizing committees are sometimes neglected. This is why. This is why. This program, the whole AmeriCorps program hasn't been reauthorized I think since 1996 or so; and yet, when we do come to reauthorize it, we ignore what our own government, our own agencies are telling us about these programs and we simply pile more money on.

No matter what we do on the overall bill, and I can read the writing on the wall, the bill is going to pass, let's at

least give some thought to the taxpayers here who have to fund this, to say that we are not going to increase a program to create a new program under an existing program that has been rated by our own Office of Management and Budget as not performing, results not demonstrated.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. INSLEE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 11 offered by Mr. INSLEE:

Page 144, strike lines 15 through 19 and insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

Subtitle I—Energy Conservation Corps

SEC. 1811. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (in this subtitle referred to as the "Corporation") shall make grants to States for the creation or expansion of full-time or part-time Energy Conservation Corps programs. Notwithstanding provisions identified in this subtitle, the Corporation shall apply the provisions of subtitle C of this subchapter in making grants under this section as necessary.

SEC. 1812. APPLICATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subtitle, a State shall invite applications from within the State to receive an Energy Conservation Corps grant.

(b) **PROCESS.**—The State shall then prepare and submit a State application to the Corporation at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation may reasonably require. The Corporation shall consult with state and local Conservation Corps in the development of the application guidelines.

(c) **DISADVANTAGED YOUTH.**—To acknowledge the focused enrollment of disadvantaged youth and young adults in the Energy Conservation Corps, the Corporation shall—

(1) allow a higher cost-per-member to enable Energy Conservation Corps programs to provide the necessary supportive services to ensure the success of the participants; and

(2) allow for greater flexibility in retention rates.

(d) **CONSIDERATION OF RESIDENTIAL CORPS.**—The Corporation shall allow for equal consideration of residential Corps program opportunities since residential Corps thrive in rural areas that commonly lack opportunities for young adults, enable the participation for emancipated foster youth, gang involved youth, and others lacking a safe and stable home environment, allow for more structured time for work, training,

education and counseling, and provide disaster response-ready crews immediately upon request.

(e) **EQUITABLE TREATMENT.**—In the consideration of applications, the Corporation shall ensure the equitable treatment of both urban and rural areas.

SEC. 1813. FOCUS OF PROGRAMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Programs that receive assistance under this subtitle may carry out activities that—

(1) meet an identifiable public need with specific emphasis on projects in support of energy conservation, infrastructure and transportation improvement, and emergency operations, including—

(A) improving the energy efficiency of housing for elderly and low-income people;

(B) building energy-efficient "green" housing for elderly and low-income people;

(C) environmental education and energy conservation education for elementary and secondary school students and the public;

(D) reusing and recycling including deconstruction;

(E) the repair, renovation, or rehabilitation of an existing infrastructure facility including, but not limited to, rail, mass transportation, ports, inland navigation, schools and hospitals;

(F) transportation enhancements;

(G) recreational trails improvements, including those that enable alternative means of transportation and ensure safe use;

(H) transformation of military bases affected by the Base Realignment and Closing process (BRAC) to green the space;

(I) tree planting and reforestation;

(J) renewable resource enhancement; and

(K) assisting in emergency operations, such as disaster prevention and relief; and

(2) provide opportunities for youth and young adults, especially disadvantaged youth, to be trained for careers related to the activities listed in paragraph (1), including those that will be part of the emerging field of "green collar" jobs.

(b) **GOALS OF THE ENERGY CONSERVATION CORPS.**—The goals of the Energy Conservation Corps are to—

(1) promote clean energy use and preserve, protect, and sustain the environment;

(2) provide young adults with opportunities to become better citizens, students and workers through meaningful service to their communities and the nation;

(3) mobilize youth and young adults, especially disadvantaged youth, to promote energy conservation and mitigate threats to the environment; and

(4) provide a pathway to responsible adulthood and productive, unsubsidized employment in the private sector.

SEC. 1814. TRAINING AND EDUCATION SERVICES.

All applicants must describe how they intend to—

(1) assess the skills of Corpsmembers;

(2) provide life skills and work skills training;

(3) provide training and education;

(4) develop agreements for academic study with—

(A) local education agencies;

(B) community colleges;

(C) 4-year colleges;

(D) area charter high schools and vocational-technical schools; and

(E) community-based organizations;

(5) provide career and educational guidance; and

(6) Recruit participants without high school diplomas.

SEC. 1815. PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS.

In the consideration of applications the Corporation shall give preference to programs that are discrete and—

- (1) meet an identifiable public need;
- (2) instill a work ethic and a sense of public service in the participants;
- (3) involve youth operating in crews or a team-based structure; and
- (4) enhance skills development and educational level and opportunities for the participants.

SEC. 1816. PARTICIPANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Age enrollment in programs that receive assistance under this subtitle shall be limited to individuals who, at the time of enrollment, are not less than 18 years nor more than 25 years of age, except that summer programs may include individuals not less than 14 years or more than 21 years of age at the time of the enrollment of such individuals.

(b) PARTICIPATION OF DISADVANTAGED YOUTH.—Programs that receive assistance under this subtitle shall ensure that at least 50 percent of the participants are economically disadvantaged youth.

(c) SPECIAL CORPSMEMBERS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, program agencies may enroll a limited number of special Corpsmembers over age 25 so that the Energy Conservation Corps may draw on their special skills to fulfill the purposes of this chapter.

SEC. 1817. USE OF VOLUNTEERS.

The use of volunteer services under this section shall be subject to the condition that such use does not result in the displacement of any participant.

SEC. 1818. COOPERATION AMONG STATES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

(a) AGREEMENTS BETWEEN STATES.—States operating an Energy Conservation Corps may enter into a compact with participating states to provide for mutual cooperation to manage any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the affected state.

(b) PARTICIPATING STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) The authorized representative of a participating state may request assistance of another party by contracting the authorized representative of that state. The provisions of this agreement shall only apply to requests for assistance made by and to authorized representatives.

(2) There shall be frequent consultation between state officials who have assigned emergency management responsibilities and other appropriate representatives of the party states with affected jurisdictions and the United States Government, with free exchange of information, plans, and resource records relating to emergency capabilities.

SEC. 1819. FEDERAL SHARE.

The federal share of the cost of carrying out an Energy Conservation Corps program for which a grant is made under this subtitle is 76 percent of the total cost of the program.

SEC. 1820. BEST PRACTICES.

(a) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Corporation shall provide technical assistance to grantees that request assistance and shall disseminate best practices that emerge from the Energy Conservation Corps.

(b) CONTRACT.—In providing training and technical assistance, the Corporation shall contract with a national organization with a proven track record of developing and sustaining Corps, working with the Conservation Corps model, and engaging young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

SEC. 1820A. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2008 through 2010 to achieve the purposes of this subtitle.

(b) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appropriated to carry out this subtitle for each fiscal year—

(1) 90 percent shall be for grants to eligible entities;

(2) 5 percent shall be technical assistance, and dissemination of best practices; and

(3) 5 percent shall be for evaluation.

SEC. 1820B. LEARN AND SERVE AMERICA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To promote Learn and Serve programs that have the potential to reach every student in our public education network and private schools through school-based green service-learning, the Corporation shall establish a competitive grant program for the creation or expansion of such service learning programs.

(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a State Education Agency, Local education Agency, or non-profit organization shall submit an application with such information and in such time as the Corporation may require.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For this purpose, there are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 and such sums as may be necessary thereafter.

SEC. 1820C. NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To promote National Senior Service Corps programs that have the potential to both involve seniors in providing meaningful volunteer opportunities the Corporation shall establish a competitive grant program for the creation or expansion of National Senior Service Corps programs that—

(1) make effective use of the talents and experience of seniors, particularly baby boomers, in programs and projects involving seniors in the improvement of the energy efficiency of housing for elderly and low-income people;

(2) building or helping to supervise energy-efficient “green” housing for elderly and low-income people; the repair, renovation, or rehabilitation of an existing infrastructure facility including, but not limited to, rail, mass transportation, ports, inland navigation, schools and hospitals; transportation enhancements; recreational trails improvements, including those that enable alternative means of transportation and ensure safe use;

(3) volunteering in schools to teach or other support environmental education and energy conservation education for elementary and secondary school students and the public; and

(4) assisting in such other activities as the National Senior Service Corps may identify.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a program in the National Senior Service Corps shall submit an application with such information and in such time as the Corporation may require.

(c) AUTHORIZATION.—For this purpose, there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 and such sums as may be necessary thereafter.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise with Mr. SARBANES to offer an amendment today that will establish an energy conservation corps program. This will provide green collar training and educational service grants to nonprofit organizations, universities, and State and local governments. This is really an exciting opportunity for us to create opportunities for young folks to be engaged in this new revolution of clean energy in this country.

The energy conservation corps we envisioned will help revitalize communities and preserve and restore the environment, while also preparing young people for the responsible and productive lives we know they are going to have.

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 will create hundreds of thousands of new opportunities for Americans. It will give low-income young people training to fill these green collar jobs that we are now excited about and hope for a prosperous and successful future.

The conservation corps will fund energy conservation installations in public spaces, energy efficient green housing for elderly and low-income people, and restoration of historic structures on public lands. It would also provide funding for and repair, renovation, and rehabbing of existing infrastructure facilities, and transportation enhancements and recreational trail improvements. It is going to help a lot of places that we need energy conservation. It also establishes a competitive grant program to fund National Senior Service Corps programs that will involve seniors in providing meaningful volunteer opportunities.

Now, there are multiple organizations that can participate in this, one of which just as an example is the Student Conservation Association. Under this grant program, they will be able to deploy sustainable community projects which engage disadvantaged and other youth to help communities learn energy saving and water conservation techniques and strategies to prevent pollution.

In this program, SCA corps members will be able to provide a variety of energy-related services to homeowners, schools, and businesses, and communities. These services include outreach and education, facility audits, development of energy reduction strategies, and implementation in support of these programs. As part of this program, corps members will receive training, career development, and life skills while helping communities benefit from these sustainable programs.

I am familiar with this organization, the SCA. My parents led Student Conservation Association efforts with young people in Mt. Rainier National Park back in the late 1960s and early 1970s, and I saw how important these programs were both to help these communities, and to help the young folks themselves. Because what we have learned is, and what I saw firsthand when my folks worked with the SCA kids, once kids get involved in volunteer programs, once they get involved in their communities, once they get involved in clean energy, they are never going to turn back. This is going to be a lifetime pursuit, and there is nothing better we can do to help both kids' lives but this clean energy revolution we are going to launch in this country.

So, by establishing the energy conservation corps, we will help make our

Nation's volunteer programs into a true 21st century program, and we will also help solve one of the most pressing challenges of this century, global warming, while helping our kids as well.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to Chairwoman MCCARTHY.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I want to say thank you to my colleague for offering this amendment, and I certainly fully support it. But I want to also address Mr. FLAKE's concern and clarify: While OMB conducted a part assessment on Learn and Serve, the Summer of Service initiative, what we are proposing is a new initiative that I believe has not been parted.

So with that being said, I think that when we look at the whole bill, and especially for the Summer of Service part, we have an opportunity to help our people, our young people during the summertime. This, to me, can certainly cut down on what we are seeing in our communities across this country right now, on more violence in our communities. We have to look at what is the underlying cause.

With that being said, we are certainly doing the most we can for the little amount of money that we have, to make the biggest impact on these children's lives. So with that being said, I certainly hope that when we come down to it that we will be against Mr. FLAKE's amendment and let this bill go forward, and let's help the young people, let's help our veterans, let us help everybody in this particular amendment. It is a good bill. It has been overwhelmingly supported on both sides of the aisle, but this particular amendment, as far as I am concerned, would hurt too many of our young people.

□ 1315

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, while I certainly understand the focus and intent of this amendment, I rise in opposition and worry that this amendment will create more bureaucracy and administrative costs rather than focus on getting dollars out to the participants in the programs.

The focus of the GIVE Act is on streamlining our national service programs to make them more effective, efficient, and accountable. To do that, we have refocused a number of programs and added priorities to others to ensure that national service funds are being spent on initiatives that meet the most pressing needs.

We have accomplished that by working within the existing program structures rather than piling new programs on top of existing programs with similar purposes. I share the gentleman's

concerns in the area of energy conservation. I believe a better approach to this issue would have been to work within existing structures. In fact, this bill already does that by addressing energy usage and conservation in a number of areas.

Learn and Service, a new Summer of Service program, includes a focus on energy conservation. And in the innovative program section of that program, energy conservation is specifically included as a type of program eligible for funding.

Under the National Civilian Community Corps, energy conservation was specifically added as a new purpose for that program. And under the programs of national significance authority within the Senior Corps, energy conservation and environmental stewardship were added as types of programs eligible for funding.

Obviously, infrastructure issues are found throughout the bill because we recognize that this is a priority in many locations. But establishing a new corps that will siphon away already scarce resources will only undermine the efforts of the amendment's sponsors to bring greater focus to these types of programs.

I understand this amendment authorizes \$10 million for fiscal year 2009. Well, not within this specific act, but the Public Land Corps within the Department of the Interior already exists and is funded by the Federal Government at the amount of \$2.5 million this year and it is authorized for \$12 million. This program, the Public Land Corps, engages disadvantaged youth ages 16-24 in protecting public lands and the environment, including global warming and emissions reduction.

So my opposition is not to the focus of the effort, but I believe we are being duplicative and are going to waste hours on administrative costs in creating a new program rather than investing these dollars in existing programs that will better focus on energy conservation.

So I would encourage a "no" vote, and ask Members to vote "no."

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY).

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I just want to clarify I certainly am in support of the Inslee-Sarbanes amendment. I just wanted to clarify that.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that I am in strong support of this amendment. I am glad to cosponsor it with Congressman INSLEE.

The way we are going to make improvement with our environment is when hundreds of thousands of people develop the habits that clean up the environment instead of having the habits that hurt the environment. There is

no better way to do this than to establish this Energy Conservation Corps which brings a service dimension for our young people and for our seniors in the Learn and Service programs to support this green frontier that we are embarked upon.

So I think it is a critical boost to the other efforts that we are making on the energy horizon.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to again emphasize that the GIVE Act specifically includes "energy conservation and stewardship as specified allowable uses of grant funds in programs already in place." So I would encourage a "no" vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington will be postponed.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OBEY) having assumed the chair, Mr. HOLDEN, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2857) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 1:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 1:30 p.m.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LARSON of Connecticut) at 1 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2857.

□ 1331

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2857) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, with Mr. HOLDEN (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole House rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 11 printed in House Report 110-539 by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) had been postponed.

Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 110-539 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 10 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

Amendment No. 11 by Mr. INSLEE of Washington.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 153, noes 260, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 105]

AYES—153

Aderholt	Conaway	Heller
Akin	Crenshaw	Hensarling
Alexander	Cubin	Herger
Bachus	Culberson	Hobson
Barrett (SC)	Davis (KY)	Hoekstra
Bartlett (MD)	Davis, David	Hunter
Biggert	Deal (GA)	Inglis (SC)
Bilbray	Dent	Issa
Bilirakis	Doolittle	Johnson (IL)
Bishop (UT)	Drake	Johnson, Sam
Blackburn	Dreier	Jones (NC)
Blunt	Duncan	Jordan
Boehner	English (PA)	King (IA)
Bonner	Everett	Kingston
Bono Mack	Fallin	Kline (MN)
Boozman	Feeney	Knollenberg
Boustany	Flake	Kuhl (NY)
Brady (TX)	Forbes	Lamborn
Broun (GA)	Fossella	Latham
Brown (SC)	Fox	Lewis (CA)
Buchanan	Franks (AZ)	Lewis (KY)
Burgess	Garrett (NJ)	Lucas
Burton (IN)	Gerlach	Lungren, Daniel
Buyer	Gillibrand	E.
Calvert	Gingrey	Mack
Camp (MI)	Gohmert	Manzullo
Campbell (CA)	Goode	Marchant
Cannon	Goodlatte	Marshall
Cantor	Granger	McCarthy (CA)
Carter	Graves	McCaul (TX)
Chabot	Hall (TX)	McCollum (MN)
Coble	Hastings (WA)	McCotter
Cole (OK)	Hayes	McHenry

McKeon	Rehberg
McMorris	Reichert
Rodgers	Reynolds
Miller (FL)	Rogers (AL)
Miller (MI)	Rogers (KY)
Miller, Gary	Rogers (MI)
Moran (KS)	Rohrabacher
Musgrave	Roskam
Myrick	Royce
Neugebauer	Ryan (WI)
Nunes	Sali
Paul	Schmidt
Pearce	Sensenbrenner
Pence	Sessions
Peterson (PA)	Shadegg
Pitts	Shimkus
Price (GA)	Shuster
Putnam	Simpson
Radanovich	Smith (NE)

NOES—260

Abercrombie	Faleomavaega	Meeks (NY)
Ackerman	Farr	Melancon
Allen	Fattah	Mica
Altmire	Ferguson	Michaud
Andrews	Filner	Miller (NC)
Arcuri	Fortenberry	Miller, George
Baca	Frank (MA)	Mitchell
Bachmann	Gallagher	Mollohan
Baldwin	Giffords	Moore (KS)
Barrow	Gilchrest	Moore (WI)
Barton (TX)	Gordon	Moran (VA)
Bean	Green, Al	Murphy (CT)
Becerra	Green, Gene	Murphy, Patrick
Berkley	Grijalva	Murphy, Tim
Berman	Gutierrez	Murtha
Berry	Hall (NY)	Nadler
Bishop (GA)	Hare	Napolitano
Bishop (NY)	Harman	Neal (MA)
Blumenauer	Hastings (FL)	Norton
Bordallo	Herseth Sandlin	Oberstar
Boren	Higgins	Obe
Boswell	Hill	Olver
Boucher	Hinche	Ortiz
Boyd (FL)	Hinojosa	Pallone
Boyd (KS)	Hirono	Pascarell
Brady (PA)	Hodes	Pastor
Braley (IA)	Holden	Payne
Brown, Corrine	Holt	Perlmutter
Butterfield	Honda	Peterson (MN)
Capito	Hooley	Petri
Capps	Hoyer	Pickering
Capuano	Inslee	Platts
Cardoza	Israel	Pomeroy
Carnahan	Jackson (IL)	Porter
Carney	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Castle	(TX)	Rahall
Castor	Jefferson	Ramstad
Chandler	Johnson (GA)	Regula
Christensen	Jones (OH)	Renzi
Clarke	Kagen	Reyes
Clay	Kanjorski	Richardson
Cleaver	Kaptur	Rodriguez
Clyburn	Kennedy	Ros-Lehtinen
Cohen	Kildee	Ross
Conyers	Kilpatrick	Rothman
Cooper	Kind	Roybal-Allard
Costa	King (NY)	Ruppersberger
Costello	Kirk	Ryan (OH)
Courtney	Klein (FL)	Salazar
Cramer	Kucinich	Sánchez, Linda
Crowley	LaHood	T.
Cuellar	Lampson	Sanchez, Loretta
Cummings	Langevin	Sarbanes
Davis (AL)	Larsen (WA)	Saxton
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Schakowsky
Davis (IL)	LaTourette	Schwartz
Davis, Lincoln	Latta	Scott (GA)
Davis, Tom	Lee	Scott (VA)
DeFazio	Levin	Serrano
DeGette	Lewis (GA)	Shays
Delahunt	Lipinski	Shea-Porter
DeLauro	LoBiondo	Sherman
Diaz-Balart, L.	Loeb	Shuler
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lofgren, Zoe	Sires
Dicks	Lowey	Skelton
Dingell	Lynch	Slaughter
Doggett	Mahoney (FL)	Smith (NJ)
Donnelly	Maloney (NY)	Smith (WA)
Doyle	Markey	Snyder
Edwards	Matheson	Space
Ehlers	Matsui	Spratt
Ellison	McCarthy (NY)	Stark
Ellsworth	McDermott	Stupak
Emanuel	McGovern	Sutton
Emerson	McHugh	Tanner
Engel	McIntyre	Tauscher
Eshoo	McNerney	Taylor
Etheridge	McNulty	Terry

Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancred
Thornberry
Tiberi
Walberg
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen

Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt

Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—20

Baird	Johnson, E. B.	Rangel
Brown-Waite,	Keller	Rush
Ginny	Linder	Schiff
Fortuño	McCrery	Sestak
Frelinghuysen	Meek (FL)	Solis
Gonzalez	Poe	Tiahrt
Hulshof	Pryce (OH)	Woolsey

□ 1359

Messrs. ROTHMAN, BRADY of Pennsylvania, WU, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Messrs. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, OBERSTAR, RAMSTAD, TANNER, EHLERS and FORTENBERRY changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. KNOLLENBERG, DAVIS of Kentucky, CAMP of Michigan and REYNOLDS changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 105, had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I intended to vote “no” on amendment number 10 of House Report 110-539 offered by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona during debate on H.R. 2857, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. INSLEE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 252, noes 161, not voting 20, as follows:

[Roll No. 106]

AYES—252

Abercrombie	Bilbray	Capuano
Ackerman	Bishop (GA)	Cardoza
Allen	Bishop (NY)	Carnahan
Altmire	Blumenauer	Carney
Andrews	Bordallo	Castle
Arcuri	Boren	Castor
Baca	Boswell	Chandler
Baird	Boucher	Christensen
Baldwin	Boyd (FL)	Clarke
Barrow	Boyd (KS)	Clay
Bartlett (MD)	Brady (PA)	Cleaver
Bean	Braley (IA)	Clyburn
Becerra	Brown, Corrine	Cohen
Berkley	Butterfield	Conyers
Berman	Capito	Cooper
Berry	Capps	Costa

Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart, L.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Doyle
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Faleomavaega
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hereth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jefferson
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Jones (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur

Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb
Loeb
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Norton
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor
Payne
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Rahall

Ramstad
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weller
Wexler
Wilson (OH)
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NOES—161

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon

Cantor
Carter
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Fossella
Foxy

Franks (AZ)
Gallely
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)

Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Latham
Latta
Lewis (KY)
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Musgrave
Myrick

Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Regula
Rehberg
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg

Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancred
Terry
Thornberry
Tiberi
Turner
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Westmoreland
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—20

Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Fortuño
Gonzalez
Holt
Hulshof
Jackson-Lee
(TX)

Johnson, E. B.
Keller
Lewis (CA)
Linder
McCrery
Poe
Pryce (OH)
Rangel

Rush
Serrano
Sestak
Solis
Tiahrt
Woolsey

□ 1406

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR) having assumed the chair, Mr. HOLDEN, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2857) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws, pursuant to House Resolution 1015, he reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted by the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the question is on the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. DANIEL E. LUNGREN OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. In its current form I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Daniel E. Lungren of California moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 2857, to the Committee on Education and Labor with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the text of the bill H.R. 3773 as passed by the Senate on February 12, 2008.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I raise a point of order that the motion to recommit contains nongermane instructions in violation of clause 7, rule XVI. The instructions in the motion to recommit address an unrelated matter within the jurisdiction of a committee not represented in the underlying bill.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish to be heard on the point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate the gentleman has raised this point of order rather than allowing a straight up-or-down vote on the Senate-passed FISA legislation.

Let me speak specifically to the point of order and why, in fact, this motion to recommit is in order.

The underlying purpose of the germaneness rule is that it "prevents the presentation to the House of propositions that might not reasonably be anticipated and for which it might not be properly prepared." I cite to 8 Cannon, section 2993. That is clearly not the case here in that this body has dealt extensively with the subject matter of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. And, in fact, we were informed by the majority that we were to be prepared to vote on that this week.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the scheduling of the House is not the subject of this point of order. I raised a point of order that the motion addresses the jurisdiction of committees not represented in the underlying bill. Neither the Judiciary Committee or the Intelligence Committee is represented in the underlying bill, not the schedule of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will continue to hear the gentleman from California, Representative LUNGREN, discuss the point of order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, despite the difference in titles of H.R. 2857 and H.R. 3773 relating to the motion, that is not controlling under Deschler-Brown, chapter 28, section 24. As a matter of

fact, it refers to the fundamental purpose of the motion. The fundamental purpose of this motion does relate to H.R. 2857, as required by sections 935 and 936 of the House manual.

The report on H.R. 2857 from the gentleman's committee states clearly in its statement of purpose of the bill found on page 57 of that report that the legislation seeks to emphasize, and I quote, "the critical role of service in meeting the national priorities of emergency and disaster preparedness; and improves program integrity." That is from the report on the bill from the gentleman's committee.

In other words, the critical issue of homeland security provides the required nexus between the subject matters of H.R. 2857 and the motions as required under sections 935 and 936 of the House manual.

Further, I would argue, it is clear that the subject matter requirements of section 935 and 936 of the House manual are satisfied. A specific section of the legislation brought to the floor by the gentleman's committee relating to "Emergency and Disaster Preparedness" provides on page 71 of the gentleman's committee report that "H.R. 2857 supports the role of service in addressing emergency and disaster preparedness." These are the words from the gentleman's committee's report. "In addition, this program may engage Federal, State, and local stakeholders to collaborate to achieve a more effective response to issue public safety, public health, emergencies and disasters."

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I insist upon my point of order. The gentleman again is speaking to the scheduling of the floor of the House. The bill, in its entirety, speaks to national voluntary service. The gentleman, I guess, is talking about the intelligence service. And the fact of the matter is, under the point of order there is nothing in this legislation within the jurisdiction of the committees, for the motion to recommit, of the Intelligence Committee or the Judiciary Committee, and I insist upon my point of order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. May I continue my response?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will continue to hear the gentleman from California as long as he confines his remarks to the point of order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I was attempting to specify the germaneness, quoting specifically from the language of the committee report justifying support for this bill. I did not bring up public safety, public health, emergencies and disasters and effective response thereto. That is the premise contained in the bill and the committee report.

□ 1415

Mr. Speaker, if we are to be able to respond to public safety, emergencies, and disasters, it does not limit it in the

language of the gentleman's committee report to natural disasters. It therefore includes man-made disasters, of which we are very, very cognizant. And 9/11 is perhaps the greatest example. So the bill itself justifies its existence in that the individuals, under the ambit of the bill, to support responses for public safety, public health, emergencies, and disasters are affected in very specific ways by our capacity, our capacity, to determine beforehand what the nature of the disasters and emergencies would be and therefore allow us to array our individuals under this bill in concert, as is stated by the gentleman's report, to collaborate with Federal, State, and local stakeholders. In that way my amendment is very much germane to the main purpose of the bill and the specifics of the bill.

Finally, the language of H.R. 2857 emphasizes the ability to deploy the National Civilian Community Corps to emergencies and disasters. It does not limit it to natural emergencies or disasters, therefore including terrorist attacks.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I insist on my point of order. Again, had we been involved with the committees of jurisdiction that the gentleman is referring to, the bill would have been referred by the Parliamentarian to those committees, and it was not. And let me just inform the gentleman. I know he's been out for a couple of days and he comes back with great vigor, and I admire his arguments. But there is nothing within the programs of Teach for America or the Boys and Girls Club of America or the Big Brothers Big Sisters program or the YouthBuild or the National Council on Aging or the Senior Citizen Nutrition Program or the American Red Cross, there is nothing in those programs that require that they eavesdrop or wiretap anybody's phones before they can deliver their services. And there is nothing within the jurisdiction of this legislation or of this committee that deals with those matters, and there is nothing in this bill that deals with the matters within the jurisdiction of those committees. And I insist upon my point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will allow the gentleman from California 2 minutes to close his argument.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman says, with some humor in his voice, that we ought not to be considering the question of wiretapping. That is not the question we bring before us today. The question we bring before of us today and why this is germane is whether or not we have the ability to listen in on those who would kill us and therefore prepare for these disasters before they occur and, more than that, prevent them.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from California is required to speak to the point of order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. I am speaking to the point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The chair has estimated that the gentleman would need 2 minutes to conclude his argument, and 1 minute remains.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The gentleman must speak to the point of order which has been made with respect to the fact that there is nothing in this committee speaking to those jurisdictions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is willing to hear the gentleman from California for another minute to conclude his argument on the point of order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, to suggest that intelligence gathered to prevent disaster has nothing to do with the ability of those we are asking under this bill to respond to disaster reminds one of the comment in literature years ago when one was confronted with the incongruity of the law and that person responded by saying: The law, sir, is an ass.

I would not suggest we are at that point here, but I would suggest this: for anyone to say that, to blind ourselves to the information that would allow us to prevent disasters and prepare for the disasters, to say that that is irrelevant to the debate today shows how irrelevant the debate today is to the needs of the people of the State of California, the Nation, and, frankly, our allies. It is germane, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The chair has heard the gentlemen's argument.

The Chair will hear individual Members in turn. They may not yield to one another. They may not interrupt one another except by proper objection concerning relevance.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I insist upon my point of order.

And I appreciate that perhaps there's some confusion on the other side of the aisle between the Big Brothers of this program and Big Brother that you're thinking about.

I insist upon my point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is prepared to rule.

As the Chair most recently ruled on March 5, 2008, the instructions in the motion to recommit address a matter unrelated to the issues addressed in the underlying bill, and within the jurisdiction of committees not represented in the underlying bill. The instructions are therefore not germane, and the point of order is sustained. The motion is not in order.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to appeal the Speaker's ruling, with all due respect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is: Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. GEORGE MILLER OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 221, nays 191, answered “present” 1, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 107]

YEAS—221

Abercrombie	Gordon	Murphy, Patrick
Ackerman	Green, Al	Murtha
Allen	Green, Gene	Nadler
Altire	Grijalva	Napolitano
Andrews	Gutierrez	Neal (MA)
Arcuri	Hall (NY)	Oberstar
Baca	Hare	Obey
Baird	Harman	Olver
Baldwin	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Bean	Herseth Sandlin	Pallone
Becerra	Higgins	Pascarell
Berkley	Hill	Pastor
Berman	Hinchey	Paul
Berry	Hinojosa	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Hirono	Perlmutter
Bishop (NY)	Hodes	Peterson (MN)
Blumenauer	Holden	Pomeroy
Boren	Holt	Price (NC)
Boswell	Honda	Rahall
Boucher	Hooley	Reyes
Boyd (FL)	Hoyer	Richardson
Boyd (KS)	Inslee	Rodriguez
Brady (PA)	Israel	Ross
Braley (IA)	Jackson (IL)	Rothman
Brown, Corrine	Jackson-Lee	Roybal-Allard
Butterfield	(TX)	Ruppersberger
Capps	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Capuano	Johnson (GA)	Salazar
Cardoza	Jones (OH)	Sanchez, Linda
Carnahan	Kagen	T.
Carney	Kanjorski	Sanchez, Loretta
Castor	Kaptur	Sarbanes
Chandler	Kennedy	Schakowsky
Clarke	Kildee	Schiff
Clay	Kilpatrick	Schwartz
Cleaver	Kind	Scott (GA)
Clyburn	Klein (FL)	Scott (VA)
Cohen	Kucinich	Serrano
Conyers	Langevin	Shea-Porter
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Sherman
Costa	Larson (CT)	Shuler
Costello	Lee	Sires
Courtney	Levin	Skelton
Cramer	Lewis (GA)	Slaughter
Crowley	Lipinski	Smith (WA)
Cuellar	Loeb sack	Snyder
Cummings	Lofgren, Zoe	Space
Davis (AL)	Lowey	Spratt
Davis (CA)	Lynch	Stark
Davis (IL)	Mahoney (FL)	Stupak
DeFazio	Maloney (NY)	Sutton
DeGette	Markey	Tanner
Delahunt	Marshall	Tauscher
DeLauro	Matsui	Taylor
Dicks	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Dingell	McCollum (MN)	Thompson (MS)
Doggett	McDermott	Tierney
Donnelly	McGovern	Townes
Doyle	McIntyre	Tsongas
Edwards	McNerney	Udall (CO)
Ellison	McNulty	Udall (NM)
Ellsworth	Meek (FL)	Van Hollen
Emanuel	Meeks (NY)	Velázquez
Engel	Melancon	Visclosky
Eshoo	Michaud	Walz (MN)
Etheridge	Miller (NC)	Wasserman
Farr	Miller, George	Schultz
Fattah	Mitchell	Waters
Filner	Mollohan	Watson
Frank (MA)	Moore (KS)	Watt
Giffords	Moore (WI)	Waxman
Gilchrest	Moran (VA)	Weiner
Gillibrand	Murphy (CT)	

Welch (VT)
Wexler

Wilson (OH)
Wu

Wynn
Yarmuth

NAYS—191

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Coble
Cole (OK)
Crenshaw
Cubbin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Fallin
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella

Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jordan
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Lamborn
Lampson
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Mushgrave
Myrick

Neugebauer
Nunes
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Porter
Price (GA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sali
Saxton
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancred
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield (KY)
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman (VA)
Wolf
Young (AK)

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. KUHLMAN OF NEW YORK

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. In its current form, I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Kuhl of New York moves to recommit the bill H.R. 2857 to the Committee on Education and Labor with instructions to report the same back to the House promptly with the following amendments:

Page 123, line 10, strike the quotation marks and period.

Page 123, after line 10, insert the following new section:

“SEC. 189D. CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Entities selecting individuals to serve in a position in which the individual receives a Corporation grant-funded living allowance, stipend, education award, salary, or other remuneration in a program receiving assistance under the national service laws, shall, subject to regulations and requirements established by the Corporation, conduct criminal history checks for such individuals.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A criminal history check shall, except in cases approved for good cause by the Corporation, include a name-based search of the Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Registry and—

“(1) a search of the State criminal registry or repository in the State in which the program is operating and the State in which the individual resides at the time of application; or

“(2) a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check.

“(c) ELIGIBILITY PROHIBITION.—An individual shall be ineligible to serve in a position described under subsection (a) if such individual—

“(1) refuses to consent to the criminal history check described in subsection (b);

“(2) makes a false statement in connection with such criminal history check;

“(3) is registered, or is required to be registered, on a State sex offender registry or the national sex offender registry established under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.); or

“(4) has been convicted of murder, as described in section 1111 of title 18, United States Code.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise to offer this motion to recommit to strengthen the bill before us, H.R. 2857, and the national service laws to ensure that we are all doing what we can to protect those individuals being served by these programs and by the Federal investment in national service.

Sparked by a 2005 Inspector General report that found rampant, and I recognize and emphasize that word “rampant,” noncompliance with individual grant provisions requiring background checks, the Corporation for National Community Service recently completed a rulemaking process to institute background checks for any individuals seeking a federally funded national service position within the Senior Companion and the Foster Grandparent program and from the

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Johnson (IL)

NOT VOTING—15

Brown-Waite,	Linder	Sestak
Ginny	McCrery	Solis
Gonzalez	Poe	Woolsey
Hulshof	Pryce (OH)	Young (FL)
Johnson, E. B.	Rangel	
Keller	Rush	

□ 1440

Mr. BURGESS changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 105–107, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall 105, “no” on rollcall 106, and “nay” on rollcall 107.

AmeriCorps positions in which individuals have access to a vulnerable population.

□ 1445

The regs also prohibited individuals from serving in these positions if they were registered sex offenders.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the administration for taking these steps to protect vulnerable populations being served by the national service programs. But I believe that we should go further and provide more protection.

First, this motion to recommit would codify the corporation's regulations, ensuring that these protections are not subject to the whims of future administrations. Despite current efforts, program audits conducted by the Office of the Inspector General have detected a disturbing pattern of noncompliance with criminal background check provision requirements. In some cases, programs have failed to conduct checks.

Just as disturbing, however, other programs have failed to retain the documentation providing this background check information that was conducted for members working with youth and other vulnerable persons.

Second, this motion to recommit would expand on the corporation's efforts by including, and I emphasize that, including all federally funded national service provision positions, not just those within the foster grandparents and senior competitive programs or just those AmeriCorps programs dealing with specific populations.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in addition to prohibiting registered sex offenders from serving in these positions, this motion to recommit would include those individuals convicted of murder as well.

Mr. Speaker, our message is clear with this motion to recommit: if you are a program receiving assistance under these national service laws and are accepting participants to serve in federally funded programs and positions within your program, we expect you to screen those potential participants to ensure that they are not, and I emphasize again, not registered sex offenders or convicted murderers. And if you wish to serve in federally funded national service positions, some of which include as their reward an education award that exceeds that which is received by low-income students through the form of a Pell Grant, you are not welcome if you have committed these crimes.

Mr. Speaker, some people would ask, Why do we include these crimes? We believe that these crimes are so egregious that they demand Federal action. But also we hope that by requiring criminal history background checks, programs will have increased information with which they can exercise good judgment. It only seems to make sense. To repeat myself, we also hope that by requiring criminal background checks, programs will have the increased infor-

mation from which they can exercise good judgment in deciding who deserves the rewards that come with federally funded national service positions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this motion to recommit, which would provide the Education and Labor Committee further time to deliberate on this important topic. This motion expresses a loud and clear message that the House of Representatives believes that those in need who are served by programs supported with assistance under these laws should be assured that they will not be placed in harm's way when approaching these programs for help.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. As I understand the motion, Mr. Speaker, it is to codify the regulations that were finalized in November of last year that the Department has proposed for background checks and protection of the programs; is that correct?

Mr. KUHL of New York. If the gentleman will yield, that is one aspect of the motion. It goes farther than that.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I think we agree with you, and I would ask if the gentleman would accept a unanimous consent request to change "promptly" to "forthwith" so we could vote on it now and report the bill out.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, I recently sat and listened to the debate on the prior attempt to bring a motion to recommit on a significant issue, that being the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. If the gentleman would amend his unanimous consent request to include that so we might have a vote, I would be happy to.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I reclaim my time.

I just want to say that this is unfortunate, because this is an amendment that we would agree to. It embodies the regulations supported by the Bush administration. It affects a program that has huge bipartisan support in all of our communities, that the President is in support of and is looking for the opportunity to sign this bill. But the gentleman insists upon making his motion in the form of "promptly," so that the bill has to go back to committee, which makes everything much more complicated in terms of the passage of this bill.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the appropriations for these particular programs don't expire for another several months.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I reclaim my time and would just say that this amendment was never offered in committee, it was never taken to the Rules Committee. This is sort of a "gotcha." But, unfortunately, it dramatically impacts the timetable for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 1015, further proceedings on the bill will be postponed.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, March 5, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with two administrative subpoenas for documents issued by the Merit Systems Protection Board.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoenas is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

DANIEL P. BEARD,
Chief Administrative Officer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to indicate the positions I would have taken on votes missed because I was unavoidably detained in my district, and, lastly, I was unavoidably detained at a meeting with the Dialogue on Diversity.

On rollcall vote No. 90, H.R. 816, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 89, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 88, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 87, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 86, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 85, I would have voted "aye"; and to the Inslee-Sarbanes amendment No. 11 to H.R. 2857, I was unavoidably detained with Dialogue on Diversity today and I would have voted "aye."

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my positions on these legislative initiatives be placed in the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I wonder in view of the truncated schedule that we have had this afternoon, if anyone on the majority side knows if we might be bringing up the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, the FISA Act, the bipartisan Senate bill that was passed

that we certainly have time to deal with this afternoon. I wonder if anyone might be able to let us know if we are bringing that up this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, continuing to reserve, I know it certainly is an important issue. We have had communications from 25 State attorneys general.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the unanimous consent request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The request is withdrawn.

□ 1500

AIR FORCE TANKER DECISION

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, even before the Air Force announced its decision on a new tanker, serious questions were being raised about the fairness of the process and the justification of the outcome. Barely a week later, it is becoming increasingly clear that the United States Air Force has called an air strike on U.S. jobs, U.S. companies, and a level playing field. That is grounds for a reduction in rank. You can't tell Boeing you want a 767-size tanker, then change your mind, and then deny them the ability to fairly compete with the Triple-7. As it stands, the Airbus won't even fit in our hangars. Maybe the biggest reason the Air Force has an aging tanker fleet is because it has a prehistoric process that ought to be rendered extinct like the dinosaurs.

This is about fairness, this is about selecting the right company to keep America strong, and it so happens the right company is Boeing. Boeing offers the best people, the best plane, and the best deal, but the Air Force shot them down with a botched decision that outsources our national defense to foreign companies. If they won't admit their mistake, Congress should do it for them. The U.S. tanker decision should be grounded because it is unsafe to fly.

H.R. 2857

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the chairman of the Education Committee for capturing the spirit of America in H.R. 2857, Generations Invigorating Volunteerism Education Act. I thank my colleague Congresswoman MCCARTHY for introducing the legislation, and again say that there have been so many success stories that all of us could cite by referring to AmeriCorps, Vista, Senior Corps, and Learn and Serve America.

This bill, of course, that we have just been debating works to ensure that

volunteers and the organizations that support them will receive the resources that they need to continue their vital work. Many of them engage with other nongovernmental organizations or nonprofits. Some of them work with Habitat for Humanity. Many of them you will find in the Nation's urban and rural schoolhouses. You will find them as role models. You will find them as those who get on the front line when there is Hurricane Katrina or Rita. You find them in institutions such as Texas Southern University and Texas A&M.

This is an important legislative initiative. I am delighted to have had an amendment added to this bill and I am delighted to be one of the supporters of this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was detained in my district on February 28 and March 4 and missed the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall vote No. 90, I would have voted "aye";

Rollcall vote No. 89, I would have voted "aye";

Rollcall vote No. 88, I would have voted "aye";

Rollcall vote No. 87, I would have voted "aye";

Rollcall vote No. 86, I would have voted "aye";

Rollcall vote No. 85, I would have voted "aye."

Today, I was detained as well with the Dialogue on Diversity, and therefore on the Inslee-Sarbanes amendment to H.R. 2857, I would have voted "aye."

THE SAFE COMMISSION ACT: A BIPARTISAN WAY FORWARD

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, in January, Moody's Investors Service released its annual report which concluded that the United States triple-A bond rating is at risk.

We should care that respectable credit rating agencies are projecting that the United States will be on par with Estonia by the year 2015, Poland and Mexico by 2020, and below investment grade, junk debt, by 2025.

Our Nation cannot continue on its current financial path. The Cooper-Wolf SAFE Commission Act would put everything on the table, tax policy, entitlements, and other Federal programs, to provide a bipartisan way forward on this issue. Over 70 Members from both sides of the aisle, Republican and Democrat, are already cosponsoring the bill.

We must work together to rein in spending. We cannot continue to avoid a responsibility to future generations, to our children and our grandchildren, by passing on a broken system in the form of unfunded Social Security and Medicare obligations and unsustainable spending.

[From the Financial Times, Jan. 11, 2008]

U.S.'s TRIPLE-A CREDIT RATING 'UNDER THREAT'

(By Francesco Guerrera, Aline van Duyn and Daniel Pimlott)

The U.S. is at risk of losing its top-notch triple-A credit rating within a decade unless it takes radical action to curb soaring healthcare and social security spending, Moody's, the credit rating agency, said yesterday.

The warning over the future of the triple-A rating—granted to U.S. Government debt since it was first assessed in 1917—reflects growing concerns over the country's ability to retain its financial and economic supremacy.

It could also put further pressure on candidates from both the Republican and Democratic parties to sharpen their focus on healthcare and pensions in the run-up to November's presidential election.

Most analysts expect future administrations to deal with the costs of healthcare and social security and there is no reflection of any long-term concern about the U.S.'s financial health in the value of its debt.

But Moody's warning comes at a time when U.S. confidence in its economic prowess has been challenged by the rising threat of a recession, a weak dollar and the credit crunch.

In its annual report on the U.S., Moody's signalled increased concern that rapid rises in Medicare and Medicaid—the government-funded healthcare programmes for the old and the poor—would "cause major fiscal pressures" in years to come.

Unlike Moody's previous assessment of US government debt in 2005, yesterday's report specifically links rises in healthcare and social security spending to the credit rating.

"The combination of the medical programmes and social security is the most important threat to the triple-A rating over the long term," it said.

Steven Hess, Moody's lead analyst for the U.S., told the Financial Times that in order to protect the country's top rating, future administrations would have to rein in healthcare and social security costs.

"If no policy changes are made, in 10 years from now we would have to look very seriously at whether the U.S. is still a triple-A credit," he said.

Mr. Hess said any downgrade in the U.S. rating would have serious consequences for the global economy. "The U.S. rating is the anchor of the world's financial system. If you have a downgrade, you have a problem," he said.

Moody's did once threaten to cut the rating of some of the U.S. Treasury's debt when Congress refused to pass the president's budget in the mid-1990s. Other large economies, notably Japan in the 1990s, have had to suffer the symbolic blow of losing their top-notch credit rating.

Last year, David Walker, comptroller general of the U.S., caused controversy when he compared America's current situation with the dying days of the Roman empire and warned the country was on "a burning platform" of unsustainable policies.

Medicare and Medicaid spending, which has risen sharply over the past few decades and now accounts for about 45 per cent of total federal spending, up from about 25 per cent in 1975, has long been a source of concern.

Last month, Peter Orszag, director of the Congressional Budget Office, which advises Congress on the federal budget, said the issue was "the central fiscal challenge" facing the US.

Most presidential candidates have vowed to reform the healthcare system but many of

them, especially on the Democratic side, have focused on extending coverage to the 40M-plus uninsured Americans rather than on cutting costs.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

U.S.-COLOMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, after thousands of kidnappings and murders inside Colombia carried out by the terrorist organization known by its initials as FARC, Colombia finally had enough. And when it learned that key heads of the terrorist group that were being given sanctuary inside Ecuador by the government of that country, when Colombia learned that the terrorists were 1,800 meters from Colombia, Colombia decided to strike. It did so from Colombian airspace. And, in fact, the FARC shot at the Colombian Air Force, which permitted the Colombian Air Force to pinpoint the exact spot where the FARC terrorists were, where they had been, and from where they were attacking Colombia.

Colombia struck, and the second-ranking FARC terrorist head, Luis Edgar Devia-Silva, alias Raul Reyes, was killed. Reyes was killed along with approximately 20 other terrorists. Unfortunately, one brave Colombian soldier fighting in defense of freedom, Carlos Hernandez Leon, was also killed during the operation.

It is as tragic as it is condemnable. It is, in fact, criminal for the Governments of Ecuador and Venezuela to provide sanctuary for terrorists who systemically commit murder and kidnappings inside Colombia, and then those terrorists return to Venezuelan and Ecuadorian soil.

President Bush and the United States of America have stood by and are firmly standing by our great democratic ally and friend Colombia and its twice overwhelmingly elected President Alvaro Uribe. Unfortunately, that is not the case with much of the rest of our hemisphere. I commend President Bush for his steadfast support of our great ally President Uribe.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is time for this Congress to act. We need to renew and to increase our security aid to Colombia, which has been known for a decade as Plan Colombia, and the majority leadership of this Congress must immediately schedule a vote on U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, an agreement that is in the interest both of the American and the Colombian peoples.

The majority leadership of this House must stop preventing a vote on the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement. The position on that critical issue of the majority leadership of this Congress is petty and is ultimately irresponsible. The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee was quoted recently as saying, referring to trips that Members of Congress have been taking to Colombia to find out for themselves how the Free Trade Agreement would affect our two countries: "It is not the facts on the ground that are important; it is the politics in the air." How sad, Mr. Speaker. How sad.

It is time for this Congress to send a clear sign of support and solidarity to our good friend Colombia. It is time to stop blocking the FTA with Colombia and for the majority leadership of Congress to schedule a vote on the Free Trade Agreement with Colombia now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. YARMUTH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY GOLDEN BULLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and pay tribute to the Johnson C. Smith University Golden Bulls men's basketball team which won the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association basketball tournament held in my congressional district this past weekend. The Lady Golden Bulls, unfortunately, lost to Shaw University in the women's championship game.

The CIAA basketball tournament is, of course, the premier basketball tournament in the country among Historically Black Colleges and Universities, dating back years before African American athletes were admitted to and allowed to compete in athletics at other universities throughout the United States.

While the tournament highlights the tops in athletic competition and is a source of much needed funding for academic and athletic scholarships, anyone who has ever attended the tournament will know, of course, that it is also an unrivaled social reunion and family event.

The outstanding athletic performances by Johnson C. Smith University's teams this weekend, especially the championship performance by the men's team, was one more tribute to Dr. Dorothy Yancey, who has announced that she will be retiring at the end of this school year after 14 years as president of Johnson C. Smith University.

Dr. Yancey made history when she became the first female president of

Johnson C. Smith University in 1994. Her leadership and hands-on management has led Johnson C. Smith University to many outstanding accomplishments, including two successful accreditation reviews, getting Johnson C. Smith University fully wired, and making it one of the first institutions in the Nation to provide laptop computers to every student; construction, renovation, or restoration of state-of-the-art facilities; and recognition by the U.S. News and World Report magazine as a top tier institution among comprehensive colleges that offer bachelor's degrees for each of the last 6 years.

The recent success of Johnson C. Smith University's basketball teams, especially the CIAA's men's championship, is another tribute to Dr. Yancey's leadership as she prepares to retire from Johnson C. Smith. It couldn't have come at a more fitting time. Dr. Yancey's hard work and leadership will forever remain in the hearts of all Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls and friends. We wish Dr. Yancey and Johnson C. Smith University continuing success. I am fortunate to be the representative of this fine university in Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 1515

SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUNDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to discuss an issue that is on the horizon that could very well affect the economic freedom of Americans, especially their family's prosperity and happiness. It is an issue that I would also like to thank the chairman of the Financial Services Committee, Representative FRANK, and the ranking member of the subcommittee, Representative KANJORSKI, for bringing forward.

The issue I am talking about is the issue of sovereign wealth funds. Many people will question what is a sovereign wealth fund. The answer is very simple. A sovereign wealth fund is a fund that is controlled by a foreign government that then invests into the private market of the United States.

Many people, especially those within my own party, disturbingly think sovereign wealth funds are a wonderful way to inject capital into the United States. The reality is these are very dangerous instrumentalities of foreign nations and would allow for the potential interference of these foreign nations in our domestic affairs, and not only within our economic sphere.

One of the reasons I joined the Republican Party was because I oppose socialism, communism; and I wanted to advance the cause of liberty. A sovereign wealth fund denies all of those. Again, a sovereign wealth fund is controlled by a government. Those who recall economics can understand that when a government buys an asset from the private sector, when the government owns it, the product or service has been "nationalized." This is the root of socialism. Government buys something in the private sector, socialism gets bigger, free markets and free enterprise and free people get diminished. This is the root problem of a sovereign wealth fund. It will diminish the economic liberty of individuals in the face of governments that are trying to control free enterprise.

We should not have this occurring in the United States of America, the bastion of free enterprise conducted by free people.

The second problem I have with sovereign wealth funds grows from the first: a foreign country controls this fund. This is not protectionism of anything except Americans' liberty, prosperity, sovereignty, and security.

The Communist Chinese have one of the largest sovereign wealth funds in the world. As they continue to tell us, although few people seem to understand that they are serious, they remain communists. The communist sovereign wealth fund from China comes in and buys private assets in the United States. Those government assets are now socialized; and, again, your freedom, liberty, prosperity, and security are diminished and there is a huge problem with this in the hands of the Communist Chinese.

In addition, whereas in the free market private investment funds have to raise capital voluntarily from individuals and then make rational decisions based upon the profit motive, a sovereign government's wealth fund is allowed to take and spend and invest. They spend and invest that which they take from their people. They have no accountability to these citizens, and they can invest for a political motive.

These entities of sovereign wealth funds are antithetical to private sector free market investment. And, again, when they are forced to operate on a private sector profit motive, the sovereign wealth fund can operate on a political motive, which may or may not be in the long-term interests of the people of the United States.

So for two reasons I would like to go on record immediately in my opposition to sovereign wealth funds in any nation's hands being invested in the United States and socializing our private sector assets. And I would like to also especially emphasize my abject contempt for nations that are opposed to the United States' continued existence as a bastion of liberty being able to buy up influence within the United States based upon a solely political motive, and that political motive is not in the people's best interests.

So to my fellow Republicans I would ask them to remember why they are Republicans, to remember that we have the duty to advance the economic liberty of Americans and to protect and preserve their liberty and prosperity and security, and ask them to reassess these sovereign wealth funds. Because no matter how much money they inject into our economy to socialize private sector assets, the cost we are going to pay to the long-term vitality of our free people is too high a price to tender to the very enemies of our existence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SARBANES). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

DRED SCOTT AND ROE V. WADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, today marks a tragic anniversary in American history. It was on this day in 1857 that the Supreme Court of the United States handed down the now famous Dred Scott v. Sandford ruling, saying that Dred Scott, a black man born into slavery but living in a free State, was not a United States citizen and could not sue for his freedom in Federal court.

In a 7-2 ruling handed down by Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, a former slave owner from Maryland, the court found that the black man was not a person under the Constitution; that he was property and not a person; and that as such, he was both prohibited from bringing suit against any citizen in Federal court and was made subject to

the fifth amendment of the Constitution which prohibits taking property from its owner without "due process."

The court said that all blacks, slaves as well as free, were not and could never be citizens of the United States, and determined that blacks "had no rights which the white man was bound to respect; and that the Negro might justly and lawfully be reduced to slavery for his," the white man's, "benefit."

By that one ruling, nearly 4 million slaves living in America were deemed by an erudite judiciary as less than human, unworthy to be protected; and it took an entire Civil War to reverse the tragedy of that decision.

Dred Scott tasted the freedom that he believed was the birthright of every human soul only a short time because tragically, after his emancipation in May of 1857, he lived in the freedom that he longed for for only 9 months before he passed away.

Today we remember the horrendous scar upon the soul of our Nation of slavery and the Dred Scott decision. And we all stand in retrospect and wonder how those people in that day could have been so blind to the unalienable truth that all men are created equal.

And yet today, Mr. Speaker, here in the land of the free and the home of the brave, we have allowed almost 50 million of our own unborn children to be killed in their mothers' wombs as a result of yet another Supreme Court decision that denied their personhood and the most basic constitutional right of all, that being the right to live.

It has now been exactly 12,827 days since the travesty called Roe v. Wade was handed down by the Supreme Court. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children.

Yet today, even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims yet today, those yet unborn.

Winston Churchill said Americans always do the right thing after they have exhausted every other possibility. Americans are coming to realize that the avenues of heartlessness and selfishness are now exhausted. Americans are beginning to understand that if we as a society do not possess the courage and the will to protect innocent unborn children, that in the final analysis we will never find the will or the courage to protect any kind of liberty or rights for anyone.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said: "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

Mr. Speaker, the rise and fall of slavery in America, if it teaches us anything, it is that the evil about us eventually and completely collapses upon itself. The time is long past for *Roe v. Wade*, the bloodiest court decision in the history of humanity, to take its place alongside the *Dred Scott* decision in the ash heap of history.

TOURING IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, on February 28 through March 4, just this past weekend, I participated in a bipartisan congressional delegation to Iraq and Afghanistan. I have written about this extensively on my Web blog, which my constituents should know is located at MikePence.house.gov. But I wanted to excerpt portions today by way of reporting back to the House on our findings in these two countries in which American forces face a war every day.

It was a bipartisan congressional delegation, Mr. Speaker, to both Iraq and Afghanistan. In 4 days we took off and landed 20 different times in four different aircraft. We flew to Kuwait in a military jet. We flew into Iraq on a cargo plane. We flew around Iraq and Afghanistan in helicopters and Ospreys. We convoyed in military vehicles throughout both countries. It was a rare opportunity to meet with leaders and locals in both theaters of combat. I am personally grateful to the people of Indiana and our military for making it possible.

Our visit also took place against the backdrop of several major events. The Iraq Government announced that Ali Hassan al-Majid, better known as "Chemical Ali," a brutal military henchman of Saddam Hussein, was to be executed later this month. We arrived in the Kurdish region as that news was breaking and as Turkish forces were announcing their withdrawal for military operations in the north.

And on the second day, our trip to Iraq coincided with the first official visit by a President of Iran to Iraq since 1952. It was a time of great significance for the people of Iraq in several respects.

During our time in Iraq and Afghanistan, one inescapable conclusion emerged. After years of difficulty and setbacks in varying degrees, freedom is making progress in Iraq and Afghanistan. In northern Iraq, known as the Kurdish region, there is security, political process, and economic growth.

And even in central Iraq, after years of insurgent violence, following the military surge, al Qaeda and the insurgency are in steep decline and political progress is beginning to take hold.

As I saw firsthand in Baghdad and in the al Anbar province, the military surge and Sunni cooperation have re-

sulted in extraordinary progress and security. But those gains are fragile. Violence in Iraq has declined by more than 60 percent since the beginning of the surge and has remained at relatively low levels since November of last year. The Iraqi Parliament has passed legislation that makes further political progress possible.

Our visit was, Mr. Speaker, characterized by cautious optimism by American military leaders and ordinary Iraqis on the street.

Afghanistan was also equally encouraging; and with President Hamid Karzai, we saw the determination of a leader devoted to his people and to defeating a resurgent Taliban effort to overturn their progress with terrorist violence this spring.

□ 1530

In the Kunar province particularly, we convoyed out and witnessed really the greatest threat to the Taliban terrorists who operate on that border with Pakistan, a bridge. A bridge is being built by local Afghanis with American resources. Seeing locals waving at our convoy, greeting laborers at this remote construction site showed me the depth of American generosity and the resilience of this proud people.

My summary on my Web site is simply an effort on my part to report point by point, moment by moment on my trip. We speak about each of the days, from the Kurdish region to our time in Baghdad, to our time in Fallujah and our team even on the streets of Haditha, through Afghanistan and through a stop at Ramstein military base to meet with injured soldiers at Landstuhl Medical Center.

And again, Mr. Speaker, my Web site is mikepence.house.gov. And my constituents could access that by visiting my blog and gaining that information. I would be grateful for any constituent who availed themselves of our writing.

The message that we got from Iraq is clear. The surge is working, but the battle is far from over. Violence is down significantly in the past year. The enemy's abilities have been downgraded in both degree and type of attack. U.S. forces have made measurable progress against terrorist elements in Baghdad and al Anbar province, due to both the military surge and extraordinary expanded cooperation among the civilian population.

And while the military surge is working, the good news is the Iraqi Parliament seems to have gone to work too. The adoption of a budget, the passage of a law permitting Ba'ath party members to work for the government and the plan for provincial elections that may well occur by October of this year represent exactly the kind of progress that many in our diplomatic team and many in this Chamber have hoped to see.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the courtesy, especially at the opening of this time on the House floor.

I would be grateful if any of my constituents went to mikepence.house.gov,

visited our blog and availed themselves of our firsthand account of what we saw in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The progress is real. The progress of freedom is happening. It is fragile. And it is my hope that, by bringing back the information from this bipartisan delegation, that we will be able to find that bipartisan consensus necessary to see freedom win in Afghanistan and Iraq.

THE OFFICIAL TRUTH SQUAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate so much the opportunity to once again come before the House and address issues of concern, to bring another version of the Official Truth Squad.

The Official Truth Squad started a couple of years ago and was an attempt to, actually grew out of a frustration by many of my colleagues and I who watched what occurred on the floor of the House here and felt that there just wasn't a lot of sunshine going on, bringing light to many of the discussions. And so we launched the Official Truth Squad. The attempt was to try to hopefully bring some commonsense discussion, real-sense discussion to the conversations that go on here in the House on a number of different topics.

One of our favorite quotes is that of the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan who said, "Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but they're not entitled to their own facts."

And so, Mr. Speaker, what I'd like to do today for a little bit is just to talk about some facts. And one fact that I'd like to present as I begin is that, about a week ago, exactly a week ago, Thursday of last week, a little earlier in the day I took this same well, and I made the comment that at that time it was a specific hour on the clock. Today, as a matter of fact, it's 3:34 p.m. on Thursday afternoon.

Many individuals are just getting completed with a full day's work or about to complete a full day's work. A lot of folks are getting ready for the second shift, getting ready to start their shift from 3 to 11 across this Nation. Some who will be working the midnight shift, the late shift, are probably just putting their head on the pillow so that they can get some sleep before they get back up later this evening to get to work tonight.

And where's the House? Well, Mr. Speaker, if you look around you can tell that the House has gone home. The House has gone home. In fact, we went home today without even passing a bill, without even voting on a bill.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have great concern about the lack of productivity here in the House, and they have specific concern about the

inability, apparent inability of this House and this leadership to address the issues that are of utmost concern to the American people.

We take an oath, Mr. Speaker, as you know, that says that we will work to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. One of the ways that we do that is to make certain that the individuals who are gaining information on our behalf from folks across the world who wish to do us harm, that we get that information, that we're working with as much information as possible, that we, as a Nation, know what the bad guys are going to do before they do it. When we don't, what happens is days like 9/11.

And so, Mr. Speaker, shortly after 9/11 there were some laws that were passed that updated our intelligence capability, that made it so that our intelligence officers across the world would be able to track and listen to and discover electronic communication, verbal and otherwise, when terrorists outside of the United States were talking to other terrorists outside of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the Sixth District of Georgia, just outside of Atlanta. When I ask folks at home does anybody think that's not a good idea, should we be able to listen to terrorists outside of our country when they talk to other terrorists outside of our country, and they might be talking about plans to bring many of us great harm, should we be able to listen if we had the technological capability to do so, I haven't met anybody yet, not one person yet who thought that was a bad idea.

This is not the Federal Government wiretapping, surveilling, listening in on conversations between you and me. This is not the issue. The issue is not whether or not the laws ought to be changed to determine whether or not our intelligence officers can listen to American citizens talking to American citizens on American soil.

No, Mr. Speaker, this issue is the ability of our intelligence officers to listen to terrorists or suspected terrorists outside the United States who are talking or communicating with others of like mind outside the United States. Should we be able to do that?

Mr. Speaker, the Senate thinks we ought to be able to do that, by a bipartisan majority, 68-29. Up until this leadership, the House thought we ought to be able to do that. The American people think we ought to be able to do that.

But the problem now, Mr. Speaker, is this leadership in the House of Representatives who has allowed this law to expire. This leadership has made it so that the American people are suffering from an American Government that has brought about a unilateral, unilateral disarmament when it comes to determining what terrorists are doing, plotting to do us great harm. That's not my opinion. That's a fact. That's a fact.

I'll give you some other facts here, Mr. Speaker. What has happened in the past week, since I last took this well and spoke about this issue is that a letter was sent out from a bipartisan group of 25 State Attorneys General talking about this FISA bill. I will submit this letter for insertion into the RECORD.

MARCH 4, 2008.

Re FISA Amendments Act of 2007 (S. 2248)

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

Hon. STENY HOYER,
Majority Leader,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROY BLUNT,
Minority Whip,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER PELOSI, MAJORITY LEADER HOYER, MINORITY LEADER BOEHNER AND MINORITY WHIP BLUNT: We urge the House of Representatives to schedule a vote and pass S. 2248, the FISA Amendments Act of 2007. This bipartisan legislation is critical to the national security of the United States. Once passed, S. 2248 will ensure intelligence officials have the ability to collect vitally important information about foreign terrorists operating overseas.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman John D. Rockefeller (D-WV) authored S. 2248 to solve a critical problem that arose when the Protect America Act was allowed to lapse on February 16, 2008. The root of the problem stems from a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act ("FISA") Court order that jeopardizes America's national security efforts. Under that decision, U.S. intelligence agencies must obtain a FISA warrant before initiating surveillance involving suspected foreign terrorists located outside the United States.

The FISA Court's decision hinged on the fact that those entirely foreign communications are frequently routed through telecommunications facilities that happen to be located in the United States. Because modern global communications networks routinely route data through numerous facilities in a myriad of countries, the nation in which the call originates may be completely unrelated to the nation through which that call is ultimately routed.

A bipartisan majority of the United States Senate recently approved S. 2248. But until it is also passed by the House of Representatives, intelligence officials must obtain FISA warrants every time they attempt to monitor suspected terrorists in overseas countries. Passing S. 2248 would ensure our intelligence experts are once again able to conduct real-time surveillance. As you know, prompt access to intelligence data is critical to the ongoing safety and security of our nation.

As Attorneys General, we are our states' chief law enforcement officials and therefore responsible for taking whatever action is necessary to keep our citizens safe. With S. 2248 still pending in the House of Representatives, our national security is in jeopardy. We therefore urge the House of Representatives to schedule a vote and pass the FISA Amendments Act of 2007.

Sincerely,

Attorney General Greg Abbott (R-TX),
Attorney General Kelly Ayotte (R-NH),
Attorney General Thurbert Baker (D-GA),
Attorney General Jon Bruning (R-NE),
Attorney General Steve Carter (R-IN),
Attorney General Talis Colberg

(R-AL), Attorney General Roy Cooper (D-NC), Attorney General Tom Corbett (R-PA), Attorney General Mike Cox (R-MI), Attorney General W.A. Drew Edmondson (D-OK), Attorney General Doug Gansler (D-MD), Attorney General Troy King (R-MI), Attorney General Larry Long (R-SD), Attorney General Patrick Lynch (D-RI), Attorney General Bill McCollum (R-FL), Attorney General Dustin McDaniel (D-AR), Attorney General Bob McDonnell (R-VA), Attorney General Darrell McGraw (D-WV), Attorney General Rob McKenna (R-WA), Attorney General Henry McMaster (R-SC), Attorney General Mark Shurtleff (R-UT), Attorney General Stephen Six (D-KS), Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem (R-ND), Attorney General John Suthers (R-CO), Attorney General Lawrence Wasden (R-ID).

This letter is dated March 4, 2008, and I'm going to read the majority of it because I think it's incredibly important for you, Mr. Speaker, and the American people to appreciate the gravity of this situation. Again, this is from a group of bipartisan Attorneys General from across the United States.

And what they say is: "We urge the House of Representatives to schedule a vote." Again, that's all we're asking for is a vote. "To schedule a vote and pass Senate bill 2248, the FISA Amendments Act of 2007. This bipartisan legislation is critical to the national security of the United States. Once passed, S. 2248 will ensure intelligence officials have the ability to collect vitally important information about foreign terrorists operating overseas."

Mr. Speaker, foreign terrorists operating overseas. State Attorneys General understand it's not talking about changing U.S. law to surveil or listen in upon conversations between American citizens.

Going on in the letter, "Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER authored S. 2248 to solve a critical problem that arose when the Protect America Act was allowed to lapse on February 16, 2008."

That's the law, Mr. Speaker, that was allowed to expire because this current left liberal majority, left liberal leadership who runs this House refuses to allow a vote on this bill.

The letter goes on. "The root of the problem stems from a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Court order that jeopardizes America's national security efforts. Under that decision, U.S. intelligence agencies must obtain a FISA warrant before initiating surveillance in following suspected foreign terrorists located outside the United States."

And, Mr. Speaker, some people say, What's wrong with that? What's wrong with going to court to see if it's okay to listen in to these folks?

Mr. Speaker, you know and I know that the manner of communication since 1978 when this bill, when the initial FISA bill was adopted, the manner of communication across this world has changed. We now have e-mails. We've got BlackBerries and blueberries

and all sorts of things that we can provide that give people access to immediate real-time communication. We now are able to rent portable phones, cell phones. You can rent them by the minute; you can rent them by the hour. If you rent a phone, have a phone and use it for an hour, and we're able to know that, in fact, that phone is being used by a terrorist overseas, but that phone's only going to be used for 1 hour or one call, it is incomprehensible that patriotic Americans would believe that our government ought to have to go to court in order to get a court order to listen to that conversation that occurred yesterday, the day before, the day before that, or that morning, for that matter.

Mr. Speaker, current technology dictates that our law keeps up with current technology. Otherwise, the terrorists, the bad guys are a leap ahead of us, and that's what's happened in the last 19 days, 20 days when this law's been allowed to expire, and that is that the terrorists are getting a leap ahead of us. Again, that's not my opinion. That's a fact that I'll demonstrate as we talk more about this afternoon.

Continuing in the letter, "The FISA Court's decision hinged on the fact that those entirely foreign communications are frequently routed through telecommunications facilities that happen to be located in the United States. And because modern global communications networks routinely route data through numerous facilities in a myriad of countries, the nation in which the call originates may be completely unrelated to the nation through which the call is ultimately routed."

What that means, Mr. Speaker, as you know, is that when a call is made in a foreign land by a terrorist or a suspected terrorist and he or she is calling another suspected terrorist in a foreign land, the electronics, the signal, the electronic signal of that call may go to a satellite, may come down to a station in the United States, and may head back to another satellite and then down to the terrorist. And that happens in real-time. That happens in split seconds. And because that electronic communication touches American soil, or a company on American soil, then, apparently, the liberal leadership in this House of Representatives believes that those individuals ought to be afforded every protection of the United States Constitution.

□ 1545

Mr. Speaker, that is an abrogation of duty. That is not what the American people believe. It is not what the Constitution says, and it is not what action we would choose in order to fulfill and live up to our responsibility and our oath.

Again, going on. In the letter it says: A bipartisan majority of the United States Senate recently approved S. 2248, but until it's passed by the House of Representatives, intelligence officials must obtain FISA warrants every

time they attempt to monitor suspected terrorists in overseas countries. We have talked about how unworkable that is. Passing S. 2248 would ensure that our intelligence experts are once again able to conduct real-time surveillance.

As you know, prompt access to intelligence data is critical to the ongoing safety and security of our Nation. As attorneys general, we are our States' chief law enforcement officials and therefore responsible for taking whatever action is necessary to keep our citizens safe.

With S. 2248 still pending in House of Representatives, our national security is in jeopardy. Mr. Speaker, that's not Congressman TOM PRICE saying that. That is a signed letter from 25, a group of bipartisan 25 State attorneys general, saying until this is passed, our national security is in jeopardy. We therefore urge the House of Representatives to schedule a vote and pass the FISA Amendments Act of 2007. Signed by the attorneys general of the States of Texas, New Hampshire, Georgia, Nebraska, Indiana, Alabama, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Oklahoma, Maryland, South Dakota, Rhode Island, Florida, Arkansas, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington State, South Carolina, Utah, Kansas, North Dakota, Colorado, and Idaho.

Mr. Speaker, this letter demonstrates that those individuals, Republican and Democrat across this Nation who are charged with making certain that their citizens in their respective States are safe, recognize the gravity, the gravity of this situation and the dereliction of duty that occurs when the House of Representatives is not allowed the opportunity to vote on renewing the Protect America Act.

Mr. Speaker, we have called on the Speaker, called on the leadership on the majority side of the aisle, on the Democrat side of the aisle, to schedule a vote. Three weeks ago, the leadership said, no, we need about 3 weeks. That's what they said, Mr. Speaker. Three weeks ago they said, we need about 3 weeks and we'll be able to work with the Senate and work out any differences or disagreements or concerns that we have. Just give us 3 weeks.

Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago they said that there wasn't any urgency. There wasn't any urgency. Then last week on the floor of this House they said, we are working on it. It's an important matter. We are working on it. We will get it done. Over this past weekend, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee said, we ought to be able to get it done this week.

Mr. Speaker, time is ticking away. Day after day after day that we do not have this law in place makes it so that our Nation is less secure, our people are less safe all for want of a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives. Senate Republicans understand that and have acted appropriately. Senate Democrats understand that and have acted appropriately. House Re-

publicans understand that and are trying to act appropriately. House Democrat leadership refuses to schedule a vote. They do so apparently because they believe it will pass. Astounding, astounding, Mr. Speaker.

I am pleased to be joined by my good friend from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and look forward to her comments on this issue, which I know you have spoken out about so vigorously and understand the gravity of not acting on the Protect America Act.

I am pleased to yield to my friend.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia not only for his leadership on this issue of our Nation's security, but for his work on the Truth Squad as he always repeats the phrase, everyone's entitled to their own opinion but not their own facts.

That is so pertinent, Mr. Speaker, to the debate that we are having on our Nation's security. There is no issue that trumps the security issue. This is something that we know to be very important.

As I travel the country and as I travel my district, what I hear from people is, Why are you not taking this up? Why are you not taking the steps to make certain that we can find out who is trying to harm us?

You know, Mr. Speaker, it makes no sense at all. As I talk with moms that are in my district so regularly, they will talk about how concerned they are with security, security in our communities, security in our places of work, security in our children's schools. They want to make certain that the security to live peacefully is there for us here in our homeland.

They want to be certain that those protections are there for our troops who are deployed; and at this very minute, I have troops from Fort Campbell, which is in my district in Tennessee, and troops who are National Guardsmen from Tennessee who are deployed making certain that American interests are safe and making certain that Americans in our great Nation are also safe to live their lives freely in pursuit of happiness every single day.

Mr. Speaker, I find it absolutely revolting and unsettling that the leadership of this House continues to stand in the way of the Protect America Act. Our colleagues in the Senate have decided this is a very important issue. We all know what happens when you set aside work. You have to kind of pick it up off the table and move it over and say, we are going to come back to that, and we are going to get those items accomplished. But first and foremost, let's deal with the Nation's security.

So they put that on the desk. They made it the priority. They took it up and they said, it is not a partisan issue. We are going to find agreement on this because the security of this Nation trumps it all. The security trumps it all.

Now, if we wanted to go play the ostrich game or if we wanted to go play

Whack-a-Mole with the terrorists, we could do that. We could just rely on the 1978 FISA and pretend that we never had e-mail, that we never had cell phones, that we didn't have voice video and data just traveling on the waves through the air.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that would be nice and make us feel good and comfortable, but the point is, it is not true. It just isn't true. And as the gentleman from Georgia has so eloquently said, we know, we know that the terrorists are using these new technologies to communicate, and we know that there are terrorists in foreign countries who are communicating with other terrorists in foreign countries who are trying to do harm to our troops in the field. We have evidence of that, Mr. Speaker. To our citizens in this country, we have evidence of that and to our citizens and our allies around the globe.

Well, what is so difficult to understand about this, Mr. Speaker? It just seems like when the evidence is there, as the facts are there, as my colleague from Georgia says, why can there not be an admission that those are the facts, they are the givens, everybody, everybody in D.C. seems to agree with this except the leadership of this body. And I find it very disconcerting.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for her comments and for her perspective and for bringing more light and truth to this issue. And it is not just our opinion. It's the opinion of so many individuals.

As you mentioned, the bipartisan bill in the United States Senate, 68-29. These aren't the most harmonious of times in Washington, Mr. Speaker; but the gentlelady from Tennessee and I certainly understand and appreciate that one of our primary responsibilities is the protection of our Nation. And the Senate understood that, and that's why they worked together in a bipartisan way.

So many individuals have given their opinion about why this was important. Mike McConnell, who is the Director of National Intelligence, said before the House Intelligence Committee, We are significantly burdened in capturing overseas communications of foreign terrorists planning to conduct attacks inside the United States. That's what the Director of National Intelligence said.

And Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER, a Democrat from West Virginia who is the chairman of the Intelligence Committee in the Senate, said just last month, What people have to understand around here is that the quality of the intelligence we are going to be receiving is going to be degraded. He said that, if we allow the Protect America Act to expire. Well, Mr. Speaker, we didn't allow it to expire, but the leadership in the House has allowed it to expire. And that's what concerns us so greatly.

I know that my friend from Tennessee appreciates what Senator ROCKEFELLER has said as it relates to

this issue, and I am pleased to yield back.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there was a comment, you mentioned, Mike McConnell, who is the Director of National Intelligence, and I would go to a quote that he gave before to the Senate panel, and listen to this: that half, half, not a third, not a quarter, not a tenth, that half, 50 percent, of what we know comes from electronic surveillance. That means that all of these new forms of communication that are out there, this is what the terrorist cells are using. Half of what we know comes from electronic surveillance, and get this, and the outdated Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act had degraded those intercepts by two-thirds.

I just find it so egregious that we would hamstring and make it difficult for the intelligence community to carry out their jobs when they are seeking to serve this Nation, when they are seeking to work with the military and to make certain that we know who is seeking to do us harm.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend once again for her comments and perspective on this most important issue.

I don't know, Mr. Speaker, if there's anything that we do here that is more important than making certain that America is safe and secure. And the American people, although they know that there are partisan battles and political games that are played here, they understand and appreciate that. But what they don't understand is a leadership that abrogates the duty and responsibility that they have to make certain that this Nation is safe.

Person after person, individuals who have great knowledge and experience in this area, much greater than those of us in the House of Representatives in terms of actual hands-on experience in determining what the terrorists are trying to do to do us harm, to a person, to a person say that this is a bill that must be passed.

We are now 19 or 20 days into not having the ability to gain this intelligence, and it is harming our Nation. It is putting us at greater risk.

We've been joined by another good friend from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND), and I look forward to your comments on the issue of the importance and imperative of passing the Protect America Act, and I will yield to him.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I was listening to Mr. PRICE and Mrs. BLACKBURN talk, and I was wondering if we had the time to do this. So I went back to the day that the FISA failed, which was February 13, and I looked at it and said this is a complicated bill and there are some issues and things to be worked out and have we had enough time to do it and how much time are we spending on discussing this FISA.

And so after listening to you all, I went back and got the schedule for February, and after February 13, on February 14, we did eight suspension

bills, which are bills that have very little discussion, and two motions to adjourn. So we were in session that day about 5 hours, but nothing about FISA.

□ 1600

And then it seems, too, that we were gone for about 8 days. And then, Congresswoman, when we got back the week of the 25th, we worked 4 days for a total of 15 hours and 5 minutes with no FISA legislation. We did three suspensions on the 25th. We did the public housing on the 26th, which was withdrawn. We did the energy tax on the 27th. And then we did three suspensions on the 28th. And so, that was for February.

And if you look at what we've done in March, we did three suspensions yesterday. We did six suspensions the next day. Then we did the mental health, which was a total of about 10 hours that we spent on that. And then today, it's 4 o'clock and we're already out and didn't do anything today.

So, I guess my question, then, is, what are we doing? I mean, we, the 109th Congress, was called the "do-nothing" Congress. What can this Congress be called? Does anybody have a good name, Congresswoman, that we can call this Congress?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate that. Mr. Speaker, it's kind of appropriate that we are interrupted by a unanimous consent request, a motion that says we ought not do anything in this House until next week, let's just go home.

My friend from Georgia points out that we haven't been doing a lot this year, haven't been doing a whole lot this 110th Congress. And the American people can tolerate a lot in their political leaders, but what they can't tolerate is inaction on important issues and matters of national concern, national security. So, it frustrates them, it frustrates us that this leadership won't bring this bill to the floor. Twenty-one Members of the majority party have signed a letter that said they would vote for this; 21 Members. This bill would pass if it were just brought to the floor.

I am pleased to yield to my good friend from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The gentleman from Georgia is so right in what he is pointing out. What we're spending our time doing here are items that are not crucial, they're policy debates. They're policy debates about how you want to approach an issue. My goodness, the Government Reform Committee and my committee, Energy and Commerce, we have had hearings on steroids in pro sports. Now, we had plenty of time to parade people in and do these hearings, but we didn't have the time for FISA. We've had plenty of time to have committee hearings. Today, we were in Committee on Energy and Commerce on tobacco, and if we wanted the FDA, who already cannot keep the Nation's food supply

safe, they can't keep the Nation's drug supply safe, but we were spending time on that instead of putting time on FISA.

Now, as a mother, you know that children are going to put off to the very end doing the hardest thing. So, what you do when you're a mom is to say, no, we're going to do the hard things first. When we're doing homework, we're going to do the hard problems first, we're going to write the hard papers first because you get it out of the way. And then you know that regardless of how much time is left, you've attended to the things that are going to have the greatest impact.

Now, that is the way the leadership of this House needs to move forward. They need to go back and learn a Kindergarten lesson. They need to go back and think about what they learned there. You do the hard things first.

FISA is a difficult bill. We are pleased that there are some issues that take a lot of work, that we have to work to build consensus, that we have to look carefully and study these; the Nation benefits and our constituents benefit by that. But to put it off, to choose to not address it, to leave it at the back of the line for partisan political gain is dead wrong.

I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. You're absolutely right. And that's what people get frustrated by is the partisanship and the political games being played.

I yield to my friend from Georgia.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. The gentlelady brings up a good point. But the Republicans, the minority here, we've tried to bring it to the floor on over a half dozen occasions. We tried to bring it to the floor again today. We tried to bring it to the floor yesterday. And this is the same bill that passed the Senate. And the gentlelady from Tennessee was taking about, it's a hard issue and it's an issue that needs to be discussed. There is no slower body in the world than our colleagues across the hall. I mean, they've been working on a farm bill for a year now. So, I mean, it's a very deliberative body, and they passed this overwhelmingly 68-29. And as the gentleman from Georgia said, there are 21 Members that have said they would vote for this bill. So we tried to bring it to the floor to see if it would pass, but through parliamentary procedure they refused to let us vote on it.

And, you know, Mr. PRICE, if we don't vote on issues, our constituents don't know how we really feel about it. So, you can go home and say, yes, I'm for the security of this Nation, I'm for the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, but if you don't have an opportunity to vote on it, it's just words, it's simple words.

And so we're ready for some action up here. I mean, we want to see some action on our intelligence to make sure our intelligence community has the very best tools that they need. And not

only that, but our corporations, who have been so generous and willing to go along with some of the things that our government has asked them to do to keep our people safe, we need to make sure that they're protected.

And so, you know, we're not the party of the trial lawyers; we're the party of the people. And so, I think if we quit trying to protect some of these special interests and start trying to protect this whole country, we would be a lot better off.

And I want to applaud our leadership for staying consistent and being constant that we keep this in front of the American people and that we are trying to give the Members of this people's House an opportunity to vote on it.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate that.

We are ready for action. We are ready for action. The American people are ready for action on this issue; in fact, they're demanding it. And that's why we have begun, I think over the last week or so, to hear the language on the other side change, but their actions haven't changed.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. And what we're doing is we're giving an opportunity for the terrorists to act.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Exactly. Exactly.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Because we can't surveil them. And so, rather than us taking the action, they're taking the action. And that is unconscionable that this body is letting that happen.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Without a doubt. And our constituents understand and appreciate that.

The folks that we're up against in this battle, the individuals who wish to do us harm, are very smart people, very smart people. And we have an open society. When we provide them an opening in that open society, they will take advantage of it. And as you say, it's unconscionable. It's unconscionable for this House to not allow a vote on it.

Some of my constituents at home say, well, why can't you just bring it up? And as you've mentioned, we have tried to bring it up, but the House is a very majoritarian body, it is run by strict rules. And if the leadership of the majority party doesn't want it to happen, it won't happen. If the majority party doesn't want it to happen, it won't happen. And the reason for that is they control absolutely everything that comes to the floor. And consequently, our constituents, our friends at home get frustrated by the fact that we, in this House of Representatives, seem to be unable to get this done. And we've called on, I've called on, everybody here has called on the Democrat leadership, on the Speaker, on the leader on the other side to bring this to a vote.

We're comfortable and confident that this House will do the right thing, will do the responsible thing, and will pass this bill.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want Mr. HOEKSTRA to have a chance, but I do want to say this: We had a bomb go off in Times Square this morning, fortunately, it didn't do a lot of damage, at the recruiting station right in the middle of Times Square in the middle of New York City. And we also have had a bombing in Jerusalem today. So, the terrorists are still at work. People that want to terrify this country are still at work, and we've let our guard down.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank you for those comments.

We're pleased to be joined by our good friend from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), who is the ranking member, former chairman of the Intelligence Committee, understands this issue as well as anybody, and has been a champion for not just his constituents in the State of Michigan but all Americans in bringing focus on it.

I am pleased to yield to my good friend.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. I thank my colleague. And I thank all of my colleagues for talking about this important issue.

You know, we've been talking about this now for over 7 months. Last August, we passed a 6-month extension. That 6-month extension expired at the beginning of February. We passed a 2-week extension. We got to the end of that, and then the Democratic majority said, well, let's do a 3-week extension. And we said, no, we need to do a comprehensive fix. We need to fix FISA long term. We need to do the telecommunications companies. And then they said, well, we can do that in 3 weeks. An hour ago marked the end of the third week of legislating.

They were never serious about getting this done, and they wouldn't have gotten it done when they said they would. At the beginning of this week they said, well, we're not going to get to it this week because our legislative agenda is just too packed full. Here we are at 10 after 4 and our packed legislative agenda means the House stopped business at 3 o'clock.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Absolutely.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Unbelievable. But now 5 weeks ago, when we started into this process one more time, we said exactly what my colleague was highlighting, both my colleagues, the terrorists have not stopped. They continue their attacks in Pakistan. Five weeks ago is when they had some major bombings in Pakistan just before the elections. They had the major bombing in Afghanistan. But we also then started hearing from al Qaeda in Iraq saying they wanted to use Iraq to do what? Do you remember? Al Qaeda in Iraq said, we want to use it as a base to attack Jerusalem.

And then a major terrorist died in Lebanon. We're not sure exactly what the circumstances were. Some think it's Israel, some others say it might have been Hezbollah itself. But one of the key leaders of Hezbollah passed away, and the statement from

Hezbollah then was, "we're going to hold Israel accountable." And what happened today? Martyr Mughniyah, within the last hour, a TV station affiliated with Hezbollah, said this group may not be affiliated with Hezbollah, but the group, Martyr Mughniyah, as far as we can tell, a new terrorist group, along with the Gaza Martyrs' Group, which may also be a new terrorist group, claim responsibility for the Jerusalem operation.

So, with the events of the last 5 weeks, some new identified terrorist groups have popped up. And most likely, if there is any intelligence that our allies, because we said, who is going to be vulnerable by our diminished capabilities? It's going to be America's homeland. It's going to be our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is our embassies around the world, and potentially our allies. With what al Qaeda in Iraq and what the various organizations have now said after the death of Mughniyah, these are new terrorist groups.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Yes.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I appreciate that, because what you point out is that in a relatively short period of time, which is what we've been saying, the terrorists are flexible. They change based upon what happens here at home.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Right.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. What occurs on the floor of this House is consequential. Who is to say that there wouldn't have been information that would have been gained, had we had this bill in place, that would have been gained that would have allowed us to know that those activities were going to go on today?

I am pleased to yield back.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. We might have. But the key thing here is if these are new terrorist groups that we didn't know about before, guess what? And our allies, the Israelis, got meaningful intelligence about this group. The law on surveillance would be the law that was in place on 9/10/01, the very law that the President, his national security advisers, our current Speaker of the House, bipartisan leadership in the House and Senate all said would not work. Another example within the last hour. All right. Dynamic situation.

And remember, I think we all know that intelligence only works when you do it in a timely way. You know, 2-year-old intelligence is no longer intelligence; it's data. It's information for historical purposes. To keep America safe, intelligence has to be real-time, and the only law didn't do it.

Again, when we talked about what potential threats would be, 5 weeks ago we said, you know, there have been people who have been arrested because they were going to allegedly murder the Danish cartoonist. There was a plot in Denmark to do this. And I said, well, that's interesting. But there is another threat on the horizon. Dutch TV re-

fuses to show anti-Koran film as terror alert is raised. What is this? We've known for quite some time that a Dutch parliamentarian was going to do a video on Islam, his interpretation of Islam. I'm not saying whether it's right, whether it's wrong, but as a parliamentarian you would think that he could have the opportunity to express his views on Islam in a country that, I think in Rotterdam now the most popular baby's name is Muhammad. But he was going to give his views of Islam and was preparing a video. And there were allegations that there might be some things that were inflammatory in this video, people saying he might burn the Koran. Who knows. We don't know what's in it.

But the Dutch Government now, it just came out that the Dutch, we knew this video was in development, not knowing what was in it, but the Dutch now, the TV networks have refused to show it. But he may release this film on the Internet, which has caused the Dutch, again, a very firm and strongly in Afghanistan in the war against radical jihadists, the Dutch have gone on a high terror alert.

□ 1615

If there are groups, new groups that form as a reaction to this new video, the old law will apply. Our hands will be tied behind our back. Our intelligence community will be limited in its ability to help the Dutch protect their assets. And as we have known from the past, when radical jihadists have an opportunity like this, they don't just focus in on a particular country. They use it as an opportunity to go after modern Islamic regimes in the Middle East, countries in northern Africa, all of Europe, not just the Dutch, and the Americans. But if there are new groups that haven't been identified before, the old rules apply, which means we are more vulnerable.

It is absolutely unconscionable that here we are 3 weeks later and once again we are going home without dealing with this. And it's not because of a heavy workload. It's because they don't want to do what the Senate has done.

The Senate passed a great bill, 68 votes, bipartisan. And we all know how hard it is to get 68 votes in the U.S. Senate today. But a broad bipartisan bill that gave our intelligence community the tools that they needed, and it gave to the telecommunications companies the help that they needed to do their work.

I mean, it's absolutely unacceptable to have one of our colleagues up here today to talk about the intelligence community. Remember the last debate on the last bill, not talking about what our intelligence community is doing to protect American lives. And American intelligence officials, people working in our intelligence community, have lost their lives keeping America safe, and our friends on the other side say what? They're Big Brother. Well, you know

what? They're Big Brother, but they are not big brothering America. They're focused on one thing: finding radical jihadists.

But these folks belittle the effort of our intelligence community and give the American people the impression that our intelligence community is just looking for ways to destroy Americans' civil liberties. I have met with these people. I know they're focused on a couple of things: protecting Americans' civil liberties as they keep America safe. And to belittle the work of our intelligence community is absolutely unacceptable, and it's really an embarrassment that those kinds of comments are made on the floor of this House.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Without a doubt. And there are so many things that have occurred during the discussion about this issue that have been sad and distressing. That was one of them today, as you saw the chuckles go across on the other side of the aisle when the companies, the patriotic companies, are trying to assist this administration, assist this government, assist our intelligence community in being able to protect all of us; and all they do is denigrate them. It's just so distressing because it's such disinformation and misinformation that it confuses our constituents. But what our constituents understand and appreciate is that it is the majority party in this House that won't allow this House to vote on a bill to protect America.

I'm pleased to yield to my friend from Georgia.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I want to ask my colleague, the ranking member of the Select Intelligence Committee of the House, if I understand it correctly, after 9/11 the President called in his national security advisers, the CIA, the FBI, all of our intelligence agencies, along with representatives of some of the telecommunications companies, and got together to find out what their assets were for doing surveillance and gathering intelligence, I guess. After they came up with that, if I understand you correctly, you're telling me that a bipartisan group, which included the now-Speaker of the House, were informed of this and that there were some adjustments made to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to cover these new groups and new methods of gathering intelligence, but what I hear you saying now is, because this thing has expired, that we're back to September 10, 2001, on our ability to gather intelligence on these new groups.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. That's exactly right. The individuals in our government. This was never the administration's program. It was never the President Bush program. This was always the American Government's program, because the administration identified what we needed to do and how we could do it and they went to the bipartisan leadership of the House and the Senate, a small group, because if you have these kinds of capabilities, you don't

want it broadcast to al Qaeda and radical jihadists about what your capabilities are. You want to use it as an effective tool. But on a bipartisan basis, the leadership of the House and the Senate and the leadership on a bipartisan basis of the Intelligence Committees in the House and Senate signed off on these programs.

The current Speaker of the House was briefed four times in the 8, 9 months immediately after 9/11, and you know what? Number one, now she's not bringing to the floor the very changes that she supported in the aftermath of 9/11, but the companies that we went to and asked them for their help. And when these companies said we know the administration is supportive of this, have Members of Congress been informed, the administration could truthfully say, yes, they have been briefed. They've been informed. They know what we're going to ask you to do, what information we expect to get and how we expect that to keep America safe. They're now throwing them under the bus.

But the more important thing is the urgency of today. We need these companies to help us. They help us all the time. And we're having a chilling effect on these types of American businesses that in many ways are helping us in basic law enforcement activities, not only radical jihadists but basic law enforcement, because they're now being told if you help us, recognize that in many cases we're going to throw you to the wolves, which in this case are the trial lawyers.

I appreciate my colleagues having this discussion and debate. Thank you very much for allowing me to be a part of this. I need to get going. I was hoping I could say I'm going to a meeting where we are going to work out the final details on FISA, but now that's not the case. I've got to go to a different type of meeting. But thank you very much for furthering the effort on this very, very important issue.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Thank you for bringing greater clarity to that, Mr. HOEKSTRA.

And before you joined us, I read and inserted into the RECORD a letter from 25 State attorneys general talking about the importance of FISA, a bipartisan group of individuals across this Nation who have the responsibility of keeping their States safe. And they understand and appreciate the imperative of this.

Again, this gets so confusing to the American people because the people that apparently don't want this to pass want the American people to be confused. This is pretty simple, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I yield.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Do you know why those attorneys general wrote the letter? Because it's affecting the local governments' ability to do surveillance on people from Mexico who are in this

country illegally, drug lords and others. It's affecting our local governments' at-home ability to do this surveillance. It's not just al Qaeda and the terrorists. This is affecting our local law enforcement too.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. It's affecting the information that they're able to get. But it's communication from a foreign individual on foreign soil to another foreign individual on foreign soil. This is not between an American individual on American soil to another American individual on American soil.

Mr. Speaker, when it's confused and brought into kind of a perplexing dilemma for people and talking about the violation of Americans' civil rights, that's not what this is about. This is about protecting Americans from terrorists overseas. And what we have seen in the last 19 or 20 days is exactly what Senator ROCKEFELLER knew when we see, when he said on February 14 of this year: "What people have to understand around here is that the quality of intelligence we are going to be receiving is going to be degraded." He said, stating before the Senate, that if this bill is not passed, the ability to gather intelligence will be degraded. Mr. Speaker, that means that we are not able to get the intelligence we need.

We are now 19, 20 days into not having this bill in place, not having this law in place. And why? I have difficulty when I get asked at home that question. My constituents, many of them, will say, why won't they pass the bill? A majority of the House wants it. Right? And that's correct. Twenty-one Members on the Democrat side have said they would vote for the bill. The vast majority, if not everybody, on the Republican side would vote for the bill. Mr. Speaker, you know, that's a majority of this House of Representatives. So let the House work its will.

Why won't they bring it up? The only rationale, the only reason that has made any sense to anybody, is purely political. Purely political, either to continue the issue for their left, liberal wing because they believe they could gain political points with it or the political nature of not making it so the communications companies have immunity from the information that they provide on foreign individuals, terrorists overseas communicating with other terrorists overseas, providing those individuals the same protections that we have under the United States Constitution.

Never before has that been done. Never before have we provided individuals in a foreign land, non-American citizens in a foreign land, the rights, privileges, and protections of the United States Constitution. Because of the trial lawyer lobby and because of the trial lawyer support for the majority party, the Democratic Party, that's apparently the only reasonable answer to the question, Why won't they allow this to come forward?

But, Mr. Speaker, the leadership has recognized, at least they say they have

recognized, the importance of this issue. Just 6 days ago, the majority leader said: "This is a very serious, important bill. It's critical to the defense of our country." Just last week he said this. Why, then, Mr. Speaker, are we not voting on it today? It's 4:25. There's no reason that we ought not have brought this bill up today or yesterday or the day before or tomorrow. But, Mr. Speaker, no, the House has gone home.

Individual after individual has appreciated and recognized the importance of this bill, that the terrorists, those who want to do us harm, are very nimble. They're very flexible. They're very bright. Members of the House of Representatives oftentimes have the opportunity to go to Iraq and to Afghanistan. I was talking to a colleague who was there just 11 days ago. That's just a week into when we didn't have this capability. And 11 days ago, this Member of this body, this House of Representatives, was told by a general on the ground in Iraq that the information they were receiving was not as of high quality as it had been the week before. Changes occur that rapidly in the ability to gain information.

Mr. Speaker, some say that the individuals representing them across this Nation are incapable of leading this Nation anymore. Some say that the actions of this House of Representatives border upon treasonous activity. Mr. Speaker, this isn't leadership that's going on in this House right now; it's an abrogation of duty. It's an abrogation of responsibility. It's a violation of the people's trust. It's a violation of the oath of office. Mr. Speaker, the American people are demanding that this be voted on and that it be voted on at the first opportunity, which now becomes next week.

Mr. Speaker, the Senate Republicans have voted "yes." The Senate Democrats have voted "yes." The House Republicans will vote "yes" when given the opportunity. The House Democrat leadership is the only thing standing in the way of passing the Protect America Act and securing and defending this Nation in only the way that we can now, with appropriate intelligence capability. We must do that and we must do that as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008

Mr. SERRANO (during the Special Order of Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate; and further, when the House adjourns on Wednesday, March 12, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 13.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1630

FOSSIL FUELS TO RENEWABLES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, in just a few days now will be the third anniversary of the time I came to this floor to talk about this subject. I believe this may be the 39th time that I have come to the floor, and what an auspicious time to come, because when I got up this morning and turned on the television, I could hardly believe it, oil was \$105 a barrel.

There are three groups in this country that are interested in transitioning from fossil fuels to renewables. They have very different agendas, they have very different concerns, but they have common cause in wanting to transition from fossil fuels to renewables. One of these groups is the group that is concerned about the national security of our country. This first chart speaks to that.

There were 30 people about 3 years ago leading Americans: Boydan Gray, McFarland, Jim Woolsey, and 27 others, retired Four-star admirals and generals, who really understand the problems we face, who wrote a letter to the President saying, Mr. President, the fact that we have only 2 percent of the world's oil reserves and we use 25 percent of the world oil, and we import almost two-thirds of what we use is a totally unacceptable national security exposure. We really have to do something about that.

A couple of other statistics on this chart are interesting to note. With our 2 percent of the world oil reserves, we are pumping 8 percent of the world's oil. We are pumping our wells four times faster than the average of the rest of the world. What that means of course is if there is the end of oil, our wells will go dry before the others because we are pumping them faster.

The last statistic here is truly a bit less than 5 percent. We are one person out of 22 in the world, and we use one-fourth of the world's energy, and this fact is not lost on the rest of the world. They recognize this.

The next chart is a statement by our Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. She had in mind the statistics that you just saw, and she had some other things in mind that we will come to in a few moments. When she said we do have to do something about the energy problem, I can tell you that nothing has really taken me aback more as Secretary of State than the way the politics of energy is, I will use the word, warping diplomacy around the world. We have simply got to do something about the warping now of diplomatic effort by the all-out rush for energy supply. So our Secretary of State recognizes the national security implications of the world's oil energy supply.

One of the things she had in mind was this next chart. This is a really interesting one. This shows what the world would look like if the size of the country was relative to the amount of oil that it had in reserve. Boy, this is a warped map of the world, isn't it? There is China and India over there, so small you can hardly find them because they have very little oil.

Saudi Arabia is huge. It just dominates the landscape. Saudi Arabia has 22 percent, more than one-fifth of the world's reserves of oil. And notice little Kuwait through there, a tiny little province way down in there in the southeastern corner of Iraq, and Saddam Hussein thought that would look good as a province of Iraq, which was a problem about 12 years, 16 years ago, I guess. But look at the size of their reserves. Iraq and Iran, the United Arab Emirates, just dots on the map, and look at how much oil they have. Then across northern Africa, Nigeria, Libya, Algeria, Egypt, and so forth.

Look in our hemisphere. Venezuela of course dwarfs everything else. Venezuela has more oil than all the rest of our hemisphere put together. Russia, big, but not huge compared to these other reserves. Little Kazakhstan, you see it's fairly large there.

So some really striking things about this map. One is the size of the reserves in India and China. About almost one-fourth of the world's population lives in India, about one-third, really, live in India and China, and they have no more oil than we have. Notice that our two biggest suppliers of oil are Canada and Mexico, and they have less oil than we. Now, there aren't very many people in Canada to use the oil, so they can export it to us. Although there are a lot of people in Mexico, most of them are too poor to use the oil, so they can export it to us. But look how Venezuela is dominating this hemisphere.

Another thing that Condoleezza Rice had in mind when she made that statement about how oil is warping the world's diplomacy was the distribution of the reserves of oil. On the right over there, we have the top 10 oil and gas companies on the basis of oil reserve holdings in 2004. Notice that 98 percent of those are governments, nationally owned oil reserves. LUKOIL in Russia, big, and they have 2 percent, and they are kind of quasi-government, really.

But notice over here on the left. Now, this is the top 10 oil and gas companies on the basis of production. The graph on the right shows how much oil they have, and the graph on the left shows how much oil they are producing. The big boys up here, ExxonMobil and Royal Dutch Shell and BP and so forth, they weren't even big enough to show up over here on the right. They are not numbered among the top ten. So they don't own much oil but they are pumping a lot of oil that somebody else owns. So they are pumping 22 percent of the oil. But notice still that 78 percent of the oil is pumped by these national companies that own it there.

Condoleezza Rice I'm sure had this in mind when she made that statement.

She also had this next chart in mind. This is an interesting one. This looks at holdings around the world. World energy picture of January of 2005. You will notice the symbols there for China. China is buying oil all over the world. Why would they do that? Because in today's world, it really doesn't make any difference who owns the oil. We own very little of the oil. We have 2 percent of the world's reserves, but we are using 25 percent of the world oil, and we do that because we come with our dollars. Let's hope it continues to be dollars rather than euros. We come with our dollars and we buy the oil.

So why are the Chinese buying up the oil when it doesn't make any difference in today's world economy who owns the oil? The person, the company, the country that comes with the dollars buys the oil. Well, at the same time that they are buying up all this oil, and I am sure Condoleezza Rice had this in mind, they were also very aggressively building a blue water navy. You see, you would need a blue water navy. We have the only one in the world now. You would need a blue water navy to protect the supply routes if you wanted to take the position that the oil was yours and you couldn't share it.

They have 1 billion 300 million people, and I can imagine that one day they may, with pressure from their people, tell the world, gee, I am sorry, but this oil is ours and we can't share it. They have 900 million people in what they call rural areas that, with the miracle of instant communication and television, have observed the benefits of the industrialized world, and they are clamoring for some of those benefits. I think that the Chinese recognize that they must do something to meet those demands or they might see their empire unraveling the way the Soviet empire unraveled.

So this is one group of people that have a concern about moving away from fossil fuels to alternatives, renewables. We have very few fossil fuels and so we have a big incentive to move away and develop renewables, and these are those who are concerned about national security interests.

There is a second group, and I don't have any charts for this group, but you have seen so much of this that you don't need me to have charts. This is a very large group of people who believe that our excessive use of fossil fuels, which is some releasing of carbon dioxide that has been sequestered through the ages when the sun shown on ancient subtropical seas and algae and small animals and plants and so forth grew there. Then at the end of the season they drop to the bottom and silt came in, and then more the next season. And then finally the tectonic plates opened up and they went down to a proper point where, with pressure and temperature and time, this organic material was converted into what we know today as oil and gas.

Coal is a little different. As a boy, I knew very well where coal came from because we lived in coal mining country. As a matter of fact, we had a coal mine on our farm, and the coal would come out of the mine, dust up to big chunks of coal. And we'd have to break some of those chunks to put it in our furnace. I remember taking that sledgehammer where it leaned against the wall and breaking a lump of coal and there it opened up and there was a big fern leaf. I remember as a kid the feelings I had. I wonder how long ago that fern grew. So I knew where coal came from plants. It came from plants that died. We can see the beginning of coal in the bogs of England, by the way.

But what we are doing in burning these fossil fuels is releasing the carbon dioxide that was sequestered in these plants over very long time periods. You see, what happens in photosynthesis is carbon dioxide is taken out of the air and oxygen is released into the air. If you now bury that plant, you now have sequestered the carbon dioxide. When you take it out and burn it, you are releasing the carbon dioxide.

In the last 100 years or so, we have doubled the concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. Now this is what we call a greenhouse gas. You see the effects, the greenhouse effects when you go out to your car in the parking lot in the summer and you open the door and that blast of heat hits you. What has happened is that the rays of the sun have come in over a broad spectrum of ways and they have heated up the interior of your car and that re-radiates in the infrared, and the glass of your car is relatively impervious to infrared, so it keeps that heat in there. The same thing happens in our world. The sun shines down and warms up things down here and they radiate back.

These greenhouse gases act very much in the atmosphere like the glass in your car or the glass in the greenhouse. It reflects the infrared back in, so it keeps us warmer. There are a growing number of people who believe that this increase in carbon dioxide, increasing the greenhouse gases are producing climate change in our world and producing a global warming. Of course, enough global warming could melt, it would take a very long time, couple of hundred years, probably, but could melt the polar ice caps. That would raise the level of the oceans about 200 feet. If you look around the world at the number of people who live in less than 200 feet above sea level, it's a big, big part of the world's population.

So these people who are concerned about global warming and climate change, and by the way, I would note that very small differences in temperature make huge changes in climate. During the last ice age about 10,000 years ago, our Earth was about 5 degrees Centigrade cooler than it is now. That is about 9 degrees Fahrenheit. That is not a whole lot. That is about

like going from here to Minnesota. But that 9 degrees Fahrenheit difference in temperature caused the ice age.

So when you're looking at a temperature change and saying I go from one room in my house to another and there's a bigger change than that and the sky isn't falling, how come that is a big deal? Just remember that relatively small temperature changes can make huge climate changes.

Now, the solution to the problem that the climate change-global warming people see is exactly the same solution to the problem that the national security-concerned people see, and that is we have got to move away from fossil fuels. We have got to move to renewables where we are recycling the carbon dioxide. You see, if you burn something that grew this summer, if you burn it this fall, like burning wood from a tree that may have been growing for 30, 40 years, and taking CO₂ out of the air and storing it in the tree, then when you burn the tree, you put the CO₂ back in the air, but that is the same CO₂ the tree had taken out, so it's a balance and the CO₂ doesn't go up.

So what the climate change global-warming people want to do is to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and the concomitant release of carbon dioxide and instead substitute these renewables which simply recycle the carbon dioxide.

□ 1645

Now, if you are going nuclear, by the way, it is even better. After you have paid a carbon cost for building the nuclear power plant, then there is no carbon dioxide produced for the duration of that nuclear power plant.

The third group that have common cause, and before I talk about this group, I want to note that I think that the best interests of mankind, the best interests of our country, the best interest of Republicans and Democrats, will be served if we don't criticize each others' premise. There are those who believe that the global warming thing is just silly. There are others who believe that the foreign countries that own all this oil are going to play nice and give us the oil, so why worry about the national security interests.

But rather than criticizing the premise of these others, why don't we just lock arms, because what we want to solve the problems, and in just a moment I am going to talk about the third problem, which I think is really the big one, is to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and increase our reliance on alternatives.

The next chart, and I have got to go back 52 years to talk about the origin of this chart, because this all began 52 years ago. As a matter of fact, that anniversary will be the day after tomorrow. The 8th day of March in 1956, a speech was given in San Antonio, Texas, that I believe within a few years will be recognized as the most important speech given in all of the last cen-

tury. That speech was given here in 1956, so we are right here on the chart now.

The United States is king of oil. We are producing more oil, using more oil, exporting more oil I think than any other country in the world, and an oil geologist by the name of M. King Hubbert in this very famous speech in San Antonio, Texas, told a group of oil people that in 14 years, roughly 14 years, it turned out to be 14, you will peak in oil production, and no matter what you do after that, you will not be able to produce more oil.

Now, remember, the United States then is king of oil. Oil wells everywhere, Oklahoma, Texas. A little interesting sidelight here, why were there so many? That is because, as I understand it, of the law of capture. If the oil came out of your well, you owned the oil, even though much of it might have been sucked out of the ground of the person that owned the land next to you. It was called the law of capture, I think. So if you wanted to get some of those revenues, you had to drill your own well. I understand that wells were drilled in graveyards and through the foyers of churches. If you look at some of those pictures, it looked like a forest of oil rigs out there, and I think the reason was this law of capture. But, right on schedule, in 1970 we peaked in oil production. This is a chart of that peak. We reached a peak here in 1970.

Now, M. King Hubbert had included only the Lower 48 in his prediction. He had not included Alaska, where we found a lot of oil. He had not included the Gulf of Mexico, where we found a meaningful amount of oil. But you notice that the slide down the other side of Hubbert's Peak just had a little blip from the oil that we found in Alaska and the Gulf of Mexico.

So, right on schedule M. King Hubbert and his prediction of a phenomenon which we call today peak oil, said that we would reach that maximum in the United States in 1970. Now, this same forecaster, with the enormous credibility of having been right on target for the United States, said that the world would be peaking about now.

The next chart is an interesting one, and if you had only one graph, one chart you could look at to talk about this, it would be this one, because this has so much information on it. The little bars here show the discoveries of oil. You notice that we started discovering it way back there, some of it in the Depression really, and then after the end of the Depression just before the war, and then huge discoveries in the fifties, the sixties and seventies. But ever since then, down, down, down, down. Kind of a ragged down, because every once in awhile you hit a pretty big field, and here is the spike here. But on average every year since the seventies and eighties it has been down, down, down.

The solid black line here represents the oil that we have produced, which is

also the oil we have used, because there is no big store of oil anywhere. We use it as we produce it. And a really interesting curve.

Notice the shape of this curve here. If nothing happened to change that curve, it would have gone off the top of the graph by this time. Well, something did happen to change the shape of that curve. You notice that changed in the seventies, and these were the oil price spike hikes engendered by the Arab oil embargo, and it caused a worldwide recession. Here is the worldwide recession, and, boy, we woke up, we and much of the rest of the world, and we found ways to do things more efficiently. Now we are recovering from that and the economy is great for most of the world, there is a little tremor now, but it has been a great economy. But you notice the slope of this curve after that is very much less than the slope of this curve.

There is an interesting statistic during the Carter years, up to the Carter years, as a matter of fact, that every decade we use as much oil as had been used in all of the world in all of previous history. Wow. What that means is, of course, when you have used half the oil, you have only one decade left. Well, we have really slowed down now. You can see the slope of this curve is very much less.

Now, when will the world reach its maximum oil production? See, what we have been doing since about 1980, we have found less and less oil, but we have used more and more oil, so this area here, the area above the oil that we found has been filled in by the oil that we found way back.

Now, we have got a lot these reserves left, and the makers of this chart say that this is the average of what we will find in the future. It won't be smooth, it will be up and down, but that is probably about the quantity that we will find. But we are using more. And they are suggesting that we will be peaking about now, as you can see, and that this area here will have to be filled in by reserves that we found back here, because we aren't finding any meaningful amount of oil now. So those who made this chart believe that oil in the world should be peaking about now.

The next chart shows the estimates of a number of authorities. Some of them have enormous uncertainty in when they think peak oil might occur. Here is one that says it could occur anytime between now and 2120, between 2020 and 2120. Here is one that says, gee, it could be anytime. But a great number of them believe it could be as early as about now. Here we are at about this point. A great many of them believe it could be now or shortly after this. So there is general consensus through most of the authorities in the world that peaking could be now.

The next chart kind of puts all of this in perspective, and this is an interesting chart. Let's just refer to the upper part of it. The lower part of it is

a blowup of the upper part separating out gas from oil.

Hyman Rickover, who gave a great speech the 14th day of May, 1957, so this will be the 51st anniversary of his speech, noted that we were in an age of oil. I will have some quotes from his speech in a few moments. That we were in an age of oil. And he said in 8,000 years of recorded history we were, when he gave his speech, about 100 years into the age of oil.

This is a chart that looks not back through 8,000 years. But if we went back that far, the amount of energy used by mankind would be down here so near zero you could hardly see the difference. We go here about 400 years and the industrial revolution began with wood. And then we found coal, and, boy, it jumped up. And then we found gas and oil, and, wow, the quality of the energy, the extractability, how easy it was to get, how easy it was to use. And look what happened to energy use. It just spiked. Here we see that same discontinuity in the seventies, the worldwide recession, the oil price spike hikes.

Now, let's look at the next curve here, because this shows exactly the same curve. What we have done here is to expand the abscissa, that is this bottom, and compressed the ordinate, so now it is a low, smooth curve. If you pull this in and push that up, you can make the sharp curve that we saw over there. We had only gone this far over there. Now we really dip down the other side.

But I want to focus here on the yellow area of this chart. If we in fact are peaking in oil production, and if the world follows the pattern that we have been following in the United States, then the production of oil will look, it has looked up until now about like this, and in the future it will slide down the other side of Hubbert's Peak.

Today in the United States we produce half the oil that we produced in 1970, in spite of finding a lot of oil in Alaska and a fair amount of oil in the Gulf of Mexico, and in spite of drilling more oil wells than all of the rest of the world put together. So we are about at this point, I believe, and the demand is about 2 percent.

Now, 2 percent doesn't seem like much, does it? As a matter of fact, our stock market doesn't like 2 percent growth. It thinks that is anemic and it is likely not to do well. But 2 percent growth doubles in 35 years, and here we are talking about long time periods. It doubles in 35 years, it is four times bigger in 70 years, it is eight times bigger in 105 years, and it is 16 times bigger in 140 years.

This phenomenon of exponential growth caused Albert Einstein to respond to a question, gee, Dr. Einstein, what will be the next big energy force in the world? And he said the most powerful force in the world is the power of compound interest. The next, of course, after nuclear energy.

So, with this 2 percent growth, and I would submit that it is going to be

hard to hold growth to 2 percent, because we have India and China coming on board. I was in Beijing about a year or so ago and they had banned bicycles in parts of Beijing because they were getting in the way of cars. With the demand of oil in India and China, I think it will be hard to hold it to 2 percent growth. But this is 2 percent growth, and it doubles in 35 years. So this period is 35 years.

Many people looking at the problem we face with peak oil say, gee, let's fill the peak. I think it is manifestly impossible to fill the peak, and I don't think we need to fill the peak. I would be happy if we were reasonably sure that we could just fill the area below this peak so we would have a plateau out here. I am not sure that the world will be able to do that. Neither am I sure that we have to do that to live well, actually.

The next quote is a quote from this really great speech given by Hyman Rickover. If M. King Hubbert's speech was the most important speech of the last century, and I think that it may have been, then I think maybe the most insightful speech of the last century was that speech given 51 years ago the 14th day of this May.

I came to this floor on the 50th anniversary of that, and Hyman Rickover's widow sat in the gallery there when I read largely from the really, really insightful prophetic speech that he gave.

These are some of the quotes. "I suggest that this is a good time to think soberly about our responsibilities to our descendants." I do a lot of that. I have 10 kids, I have 16 grandkids, and I have two great grandkids, so I think a lot about my descendants. "Those who will ring out the fossil fuel age."

Wow. I was thinking of this statement when I led a CODEL to China the last holiday, not this Christmas and New Year's, but the one before that, and we went there to talk about, the nine of us, went to talk to the Chinese about energy. And it was really interesting.

They began their discussion of energy by talking about post-oil. Wow. As Hyman Rickover said, there will be a post-oil, because if there is a fossil fuel age, the age of oil, then there will be some time after the age of oil. We in this country think in terms of the next quarterly report and how am I going to get myself elected the next time, and it is really interesting that people in that part of the world tend to think more in terms of generations and centuries. But the Chinese recognize that there will be an age of oil.

"Those who will ring out the fossil fuel age, we might give a break to these youngsters by cutting fuel and metal consumption so as to provide a safer margin for the necessary adjustments which eventually must be made in a world without fossil fuels. There will one day be a world without fossil fuels."

I think that has to be obvious. If you look at the world, the whole thing is

not oil, and, even if it was, it wouldn't last for oil. But it is certainly not. So there will be one day be a world without oil, and Hyman Rickover was suggesting 51 years ago was a good time to start thinking about how we make that transition.

The next chart shows a reality that I don't know how many have thought about. This is a chart which shows on the abscissa the amount of energy you use, and on the right over here it shows how happy you are with your station in life.

□ 1700

Now, we use more energy than anybody else, and so there we are, the furthest one over here to the right, but we are not the happiest Nation in the world. There are 24 countries, everybody above this line, feels better, not just as good, better, about their quality of life than we feel about our quality of life, and some of them use only about half as much oil as we use. And when I look at the future and the huge challenges that we have from the future, I note that we have a lot of opportunity to live more efficiently and to live, not just as happily, but to live more happily, because there are 24 countries that use less oil than we, some only half the oil that we use, who feel better about their quality of life than we feel about ours.

Now, this third group that has common cause with the first two, the first two being those who are concerned about our national security, we get far too much of our oil from over there and, as the President appropriately said, from people who don't even like us. The second group is concerned about global warming and releasing all of this sequestered CO₂ from these fossil fuels and dumping it into the atmosphere and producing these greenhouse gases that reflect back the infrared radiation to the Earth and warm up the Earth.

By the way, I lived in Siberia. You might have a hard time convincing me that a warmer Earth would be all that bad. And I would note that, if they played nice over there, these guys who have all the oil, that may not be a problem, so the national security thing may not be a problem.

I would submit that the Earth has been very much warmer in the past. That is the only way we could have had subtropical seas in the north slope and the North Sea and ANWR and so forth. A warmer Earth will be very different, better for some people, worse for others, and I don't think it is a risk worth taking. But many will argue that, gee, the sky may not fall if the Earth gets warmer.

But I will tell you that this third group of people, the people who are concerned about peak oil, there is no way that we are going to get through that without a very bumpy ride unless we aggressively pursue this challenge.

Now, I am excited about this. My wife tells me that I really shouldn't be

talking about this because people in ancient Greece killed the messenger that brought bad news, and I need to get myself reelected and I shouldn't be talking about this. I tell her, this is a good news story. The good news is that if we start today to meet this challenge, the ride will be less bumpy than if we start tomorrow.

But the really good news part of this is that there is no exhilaration like the exhilaration of meeting and overcoming a big challenge. And, boy, this is a big challenge.

Many of the problems we have with our unemployed and our kids and so forth in this country are because time weighs heavily on their hands, and they end up doing sometimes hurtful things to themselves and society. I lived through World War II, the last war, by the way, in which everybody was involved. It was the last war in which our country was at war. Now, our military has been at war since then and our military families have been at war since then. But, boy, World War II, our country was at war. Everybody knew we were at war. Not a single automobile was made for public consumption in 1943, 1944, and 1945. You had to have a ration coupon to buy gas. If you convinced them you were a good churchgoer, they would give you enough to go to church; otherwise, you stayed home or walked to church. You had to get a coupon to get sugar to do your canning with. There was a real scarcity of automobile tires. We saved our household grease and took it to a central repository. We had daylight savings time, that comes this weekend, and we had daylight savings time because then we had an extra hour to spend in our victory gardens. And there was no law from Congress that said you had to have a victory garden, but, boy, everybody who could, talk to your grandparents, they probably dug up their backyard and they put a garden there. I saw pictures of vacant lots in New York City where they took all the rubble and piled it up in rows and planted gardens between them. Everybody was involved in that war.

And I will tell you, if we are going to get through this, this is a huge challenge, it will require the best of us. But we are the most creative, innovative society in the world. And, with leadership, which is I think fairly conspicuously absent today, I think that we can rally to this cause.

What we need to get through this is the total commitment we had in World War II. We need to have the technology focus of when we put a man on the Moon and we need to have the urgency of the Manhattan Project.

By the way, that technology focus would do other really nice things for us. I talk to a lot of businesses that cannot find enough technically trained people. Our young people today just aren't turned on to training in science, math, and engineering. Many of them are becoming lawyers and political scientists. I think we have quite enough of both of those, thank you.

I remember during the less than a decade, our President challenged us to do it in a decade and we did it in less than a decade, putting a man on the Moon. And I remember how turned on, it captured the imagination of the American people and inspired our young people to go into careers of math, science, and engineering. I remember a cartoon of a little redheaded, freckle-faced buck-toothed young fellow who said, "Six months ago, I couldn't even spell 'engineer' and now I am one."

Everybody wanted to be involved in this. And we need to have the technology focus that we had then, and what that will do is inspire more of our bright young people. We have really bright young people, and they need to be going into pursuits that will really be productive like science, math, and engineering. If we inspire them to go into those positions, we might once again become a manufacturing exporting Nation.

By the way, the technologies that we will need to develop to exploit these renewables, I think we could become the center for that in the world and, once again, could become a major exporting Nation.

Again, I say, we are the most creative, innovative society in the world. Somehow, somehow, the genius of our Founding Fathers and the Constitution they gave us, which really, really respects the rights of the individual, created a milieu, a climate in which creativity and entrepreneurship would flourish, and it is still flourishing. Just look at our small businesses, that they are responsible for bringing us out of recession. So I am really enthusiastic about this.

Everybody needs to be committed. We need to have the technology focus of putting a man on the Moon. And this is urgent. Just in the last few days, I have three things in front of me here where others are recognizing that this is urgent. There is a 2-day summit with our National Academy of Sciences, and they are looking at America's energy future. It is about time. They are going to be looking at America's energy future.

We have a huge challenge. We use one-fourth of the world's oil, we have 2 percent of the world's oil, and the President very correctly said that we are hooked on oil. And, like the cocaine addict who is hooked on his drug, he has just got to have another fix, and so now there is a clamor to go out and drill for that oil up in ANWR and drill for that oil offshore.

I haven't voted for those. I have 10 kids, 16 grandkids, and two great grandkids. We are leaving them a horrendous debt, not with my votes, but a horrendous debt. And I just ask, wouldn't it be nice if we could leave them a little energy?

I was asked to vote to drill in ANWR, and my question was: If you could drill and pump ANWR tomorrow, what will you do the day after tomorrow? And for

my kids and grandkids and great-grandkids, there is going to be a day after tomorrow.

Now, I will vote to drill in ANWR and offshore when a commitment is made that all of the energy that we get from those fields will be invested in alternatives. You see, today we have a situation where we have run out of time and there is no surplus energy. If there was surplus energy, oil wouldn't be \$105 a barrel this morning.

When I say we have run out of time, I am really very critical of what we, the world, has done in the last 28 years. I say 28 years because that takes us back to 1980. And, by 1980, it was absolutely certain that M. King Hubbard was right about the United States. We peaked in 1970. By 1980, we are sliding down the other side of what is called Hubbard's Peak. So we knew he was right about the United States. Now, I believe it was in 1979, just a year before, that he predicted the world would be peaking about now.

And I ask you, if M. King Hubbard was so right about the United States, shouldn't there have been some concern that maybe, just maybe, he might be right about the world? And wouldn't it have been appropriate to look at that possibility and put some programs in place that would address that potential eventuality?

You know, it is very difficult to look back on what we have done without using a couple of not very complimentary analogies. When we first found that incredible wealth under the ground, and, boy, that was incredible wealth. One barrel of oil, and we use about 22 million barrels a day in our country, by the way. One barrel of oil has the work output of 12 people working all year, 25,000 man hours of work.

When I first saw that number, I thought that can't be true; 12 people working all year, one barrel of oil has that much energy in it? And then I thought about that one gallon of gasoline, still cheaper than water in the grocery store if you are buying it in little bottles, how far that takes my Prius. Our Prius now is 47 miles per gallon averaging over the last maybe 20,000 miles. Now, I could pull my Prius 47 miles. That is almost all the way from here to my home in Frederick. That would take me a long while. I would have to get come-alongs and hook to the guardrail and so forth to pull the car. I could do it. And so I finally said, gee, that is probably right. Every barrel of oil has the energy equivalent of 25,000 man hours of work, 12 people working all year for you.

As a matter of fact, I saw a statistic recently that was really interesting. If there was no gas, oil, or coal, no nuclear, no sun, no hydro, if the only power available was the power of human activity to enjoy the quality of life that each of us enjoys, there would have to be 300 people out there working. That is the amount of energy from fossil fuels that each one of us consumes. We live as well as if there were

300 people out there working to support our quality of life. No wonder Hyman Rickover referred to this as a golden age.

The next chart kind of shows where we are and where we are going. All three of these groups want to move away from fossil fuels to alternatives, of course for very different reasons and, again, I stop criticizing each other's premise, because what we want to do to solve the problem as we see it is exactly the same thing: Move away from fossil fuels to renewables. How are we going to do that?

Now, there are some finite resources that are really quite unconventional, and we are exploiting some of them now. From the tar sands in Canada, we are getting about 1 million barrels of oil a day. That is with heroic efforts. They are using local gas which is stranded, which means that it is far away from any population and, therefore, it is cheap and so you can use it for something like this. They have a huge tailings pond which is full of all sorts of noxious chemicals. And the vein, if you are thinking of it as the vein, is on top and it will soon have to duck under an overlay so they have to exploit it in situ, and they don't know how to do that yet. They have a shovel, which lifts 100 tons at a time. They dump it in a truck, which hauls 400 tons. They haul it to a cooker, which cooks it until it loosens up its stiff oil and it flows, and they add some chemicals to it to keep it flowing when it cools down. They are getting about 1 million barrels a day, and that is 1 million out of 88 million that the world is producing. So a bit more than 1 percent, but it is not sustainable and they know it is not. They are going to need more oil, they are going to run out of water by and by.

But if they could continue this exploitation, there is more potential oil in the tar sands of Canada than there is in all of the huge oil reserves that we showed on that map of the world that we showed earlier. So there is a huge potential there.

□ 1715

But remember, in any one of these things, you need to look at energy-profit ratio, how much energy you need to put in to get out a unit of energy. And if you are putting in more energy than you get out, obviously you are not going to do that, and you are going to move on to some other source.

The oil shales in our western United States, they have reserves at least as large and maybe some larger, some believe, up in the trillions of barrels of oil.

By the way, and we will come to the number later, but the world had about we believe 2 trillion barrels of recoverable oil. We have recovered about 1 trillion of those barrels. Most authorities believe there is another trillion to be recovered. Some believe we can find more and get more out of the present reservoirs.

But in spite of the brightest people in the world, the most aggressive economy in the world, we have not been able to reverse our slide down the other side of Hubbard's Peak. So when you are listening to people speaking about a rosy future with abundant oil, remember that the United States with all of our superiority has not been able to reverse our slide down the other side of Hubbard's Peak.

There are a number of organizations looking at exploiting that. It is called "the rocks that burn" by the Indians. When you heat it up, it becomes oil. It is not exactly oil in the form that it is found. Can we develop that, how quickly, how much will we get from it, we will certainly get something from it by and by, but remember this energy-profit ratio.

Coal. We have a lot of coal. Not as much as we thought we had. The National Academy of Sciences took a new look at that, and they said that the conventional wisdom that there was 250 years out there at current use rates, and be very careful when someone mentions current use rates when making projections for the future because, with growth, that time duration really shrinks.

The National Academy of Sciences now says we have something like 100 years of coal at current use rates. I have a chart that shows what that really means in terms of energy that is available to us.

Then we have nuclear. We have three different potential sources of nuclear energy. The one that the world is using for producing energy is fusion, light water reactor plants. France gets about 75 to 80 percent of their electricity from fusion. We get about 20 percent. We are much bigger than France and so we produce more electric power than France produces, but not so high a percentage of what we use.

Fissile uranium is a finite resource. The world will one day run out. I have no idea when that will be because I get wildly divergent estimates when I ask people how long will it last: 10 years, 30 years, 100 years. We need an honest broker. It is hard to have a discussion when there isn't agreement on the facts. I would like to commission the National Academy of Sciences to help us decide on what the reserves are and what the resources are so we can have a productive dialogue. But even when we run out of fissile uranium, we still can get nuclear power from what we call breeder reactors.

They have problems, and you are producing stuff that is potentially weapons grade and you are hauling it around for enrichment, and there are opportunities for terrorists. Then there is an end product that you need to store away for a quarter of a million years. I understand there are potential breakthroughs there where we can burn more of this fuel, and we end up with a waste product which is much less radioactive with a shorter half-life. So the storage problems are going

to be reduced. There is lot of new technology in the nuclear area, and I will tell you that some who have been stout opponents of nuclear, when they are considering a likely alternative in an energy-deficient world of shivering in the dark, nuclear is looking better to them.

Nuclear fusion. That is the only energy source out there that is a silver bullet. If we find that, we are home free. By the way, we have a great fusion reactor. It is called the Sun. And the Sun is the source of almost all the energy we use. It was the shining of the Sun a long while ago that produced the plants that produced the gas, oil, and coal. It is the shining of the Sun that produces the differential temperatures and makes the winds blow. It is the sunshine that lifts the water from the ocean and the plains and drops it on the mountains and it flows down through the dams to produce hydropower. There are only a few sources of power that don't come from the Sun: nuclear, a trifling amount of chemical, and the tides don't come from the Sun.

By the way, there is a huge potential amount of energy in the oceans, but it is so disbursed that it is just hard to collar it. There is an old axiom that says that energy or power to be effective must be concentrated. Look at the tides. The Moon lifts the oceans 2 or 3 feet. I carry two 5-gallon buckets of water, and that is heavy. How much energy would it take to lift the whole ocean, 75 percent of the world's surface, 2 or 3 feet? But the problem is harnessing that energy.

But there are other potential ocean energy sources, like the ocean thermal gradients. In the tropics, it is very warm on the surface and very cold on the bottom. And there are several technologies for getting energy from that temperature difference.

Then we get to the true renewables. By the way, there are many people who don't really think it is necessary to talk about this because they are market enthusiasts, and they will tell you that the market will solve this problem. The market will solve this problem. You may not like the way that the market will solve this problem because the price of oil, unless we do something and move aggressively towards alternatives, may go really high. I hear people telling me gas may go to \$20 or \$25 a gallon in an energy-deficient world. So the market will solve the problem, but you may not like the way the market solves the problem.

There are two problems. One is that the resources are not infinite and they are not available in the time in which the market would like to have them. The second problem is that the market signals are not timely enough.

One of the big studies done, our government, your government, has paid for four studies. They are ignoring all of them. The first one, the Hirsch Report, said that the world has never faced a problem like this, and challenges us to plan for this a couple of

decades ahead because they said if you haven't started to plan for this two decades ahead, there will be some economic consequences. If it is only a decade ahead, there will be big economic problems. And if you wait until it is upon you, and apparently it is, they said the world has never faced a problem like this. There is no precedent in history.

The next chart shows those things in an interesting form. I would like to use analogy for this chart, and that is, the young couple whose grandparents have left them a big inheritance and they have a lavish lifestyle where 85 percent of the money they spend comes from their grandparents' inheritance and 15 percent is from their income. They look at the inheritance and it is going to run out a long time before they retire at the rate they are spending it. So they have to either make more or spend less.

Here we are: 85 percent of all of our energy comes from coal, gas, and petroleum, the oil. So 15 percent is left. A bit more than half of that is nuclear electric power, and the rest is renewables. Now, some people have it 86-14, but it is roughly 85-15. Notice the breakout here of the renewables. In 2000, solar was 0.07 percent. So maybe it is 10 times bigger. That is still a tiny, tiny amount.

Wood. That is the timber industry and the paper industry wisely burning what would otherwise be a waste product, filling up landfills.

Waste energy. That is a great idea, a whole lot better than putting it in a landfill. We ought to recycle what we can productively recycle and then burn the rest of it. And there is a great facility in Montgomery County, and it is really a class facility. I wouldn't mind having it next to my church. It is a great-looking building. You don't see or smell the trash, and it is producing electricity. But that is not a solution to our energy problem because most of the trash that they are burning is the consequence of profligate use of fossil fuel energy. And in a fossil fuel-deficient world, that trash stream is going to be very much less. So for the moment that is a good idea, but it is not a solution to our problem.

Wind. Wind is the most rapidly growing alternative today. The leading country in that is Denmark. They produce electricity at a cent and a half a kilowatt hour. We can do it here for 2.5 or so cents a kilowatt hour.

Conventional hydro. We are tapped out on that, probably. Some believe we can get as much hydro from what is called microhydro. It is much less environmentally threatening, small devices in streams to produce electricity.

Alcohol fuel. I have just a moment to spend on that. The National Academy of Sciences says that if we turn all of our corn into ethanol, all of it, and discount it for fossil fuel input, that it would displace 2.4 percent of our gasoline. This is not ROSCOE BARTLETT saying that; this is the National Academy

of Sciences. They noted if you tuned up your car and put air in the tires, you could save as much energy as you would get from all of our corn converted to ethanol. We haven't converted it all, but the amount that we have converted has doubled the price of corn. And our farmers diverted land from wheat and soybeans to corn, and there was an increased demand for wheat and soybeans, so now the price of all three, for these major foods, for poor people around the world is up.

In fact, a member of the United Nations said what we had innocently done, inadvertently done, unintended consequences, was a crime against humanity because now three of the basic four foodstuffs in the world, rice, corn, wheat and soybeans, have increased in price because we had this government-subsidized corn ethanol program.

We will get something from biomass, from cellulosic ethanol, something from corn. But Hyman Rickover cautioned wisely in his speech 51 years ago, you should be careful eating your food. He also said you should be careful you don't burn up the fertility of your soil by removing the organic material which produces what we call tilth, which is what makes the difference between topsoil and subsoil. It holds nutrients and water. We will get something from these. I think now there is an irrational exuberance, as was said about the market a few years ago. We will get something, but it is not a silver bullet. It will not be a huge amount. And we use so much oil, it will barely make a dent in it.

Geothermal. That is true geothermal, tapping the molten core of the Earth. That is one source of energy that didn't come from the Sun. We need to exploit that more. That is not tying your air conditioner, your heat pump to ground temperature, which is a great idea. In the summertime to cool your house, you are trying to heat up that 100-degree air outside. It is easier to heat up the ground at 56 degrees. In the winter, you are doing the opposite.

The next chart looks at coal. This assumes 250 years. If you grow only 2 percent, and I think we will need to dip into our coal more than 2 percent, if we have less and less oil, it shrinks to 85 years. If you use some of the energy from the coal to produce a gas or a liquid, and it is not fair to make the comparison if you don't, then it shrinks to 50 years.

Now another interesting phenomenon here, which is unavoidable, we are going to have to share that with the world because if we use the oil that we produce from coal, then the oil we might have used someone else will use. So in effect you are sharing it with the world. So now 12 divided by 4, we use a fourth of the oil, is 12.5 years. It is even less if it is only 100 years, maybe 6 years or so.

The next chart is a great example of efficiency. This shows producing light from the incandescent bulb, the fluorescent, and the light-emitting diode.

The green on the top is the light. It is the same in all of these. The blue is the energy. And notice that the incandescent bulb is a better heater than light source. I brood my chickens with that.

Notice the light-emitting diode. If you have an LED flashlight, you will forget when you put batteries in it, and we need to move to these kinds of technologies.

I have one final chart to end this discussion with. There are two major entities in the world that follow the production and consumption of oil, and they make assumptions about the future. I wouldn't pay much attention to their assumptions about the future because they have been consistently wrong, but they are very good at charting what we have used.

This is the EIA, the Energy Information Administration, a part of our Department of Energy; and it is the IEA, the International Energy Association, this is a part of the United Nations. This is a group that has been following what has been going on in Iran. Both of them have been tracking what we have been using in oil, and these are their lives.

□ 1730

And these are their lines. And notice, for about the last 3 years, 30 months or more, they're essentially flat. And during that time, that's just about the time that I have been coming here to the floor. It'll be 3 years the 14th day of March that I made my first speech on the floor here relative to this subject. And during that time, oil has doubled in price. Here we are at about \$50 a barrel. And there we are up there at, well, off the chart now, above \$100 a barrel.

In the few moments remaining to us, I'd like to look at a couple of charts. This is a very recent statement, January 22, by the CEO of Shell Oil. By the year 2100, the world's energy system will be radically different from today. Boy, will it. The world's current predicament limits our maneuvering room. We are experiencing a step change in the growth of energy demand. And Shell estimates that after 2015, supplies of easy to access oil and gas will no longer keep up with demand. He's saying it's going to peak about then.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by saying again that this is an enormously invigorating challenge. America's up to this challenge. What we need is the leadership necessary to make this happen.

OIL AND GAS AND THE ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, we all spend time with search engines. We all spend time with Google. You know, if you Google the term "gambling" you'll get millions of matches. And of course, you can't come to a Google page with-

out seeing the Wikipedia. And if you go to Wikipedia to see about gambling, it states that "Gambling has a specific economic definition, referring to wagering money or something of material value on an event with an uncertain outcome."

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly what is going on with energy policy here in the United States House of Representatives. Earlier today, the price of oil rose to a record high, nearly \$106 a barrel.

We all feel pain at the pump. In fact, I drive a hybrid car back home, but it's still getting awfully expensive to fill up. And like any good Texan, I have a Ford F-150 pickup truck, and last week when I had to fill it with metal to drive to the recycler, it cost me almost \$80 to fill up the truck.

In fact, since the Speaker of the House took the gavel on January 1, 2007, the average price of gasoline has increased by about \$1 a gallon. The price of gas now back home for me is about where it was in the days after Hurricane Katrina. You remember Hurricane Katrina wiped out almost all the refining capacity in the United States, and the price of oil went up higher than anyone had ever seen it go before. The price of gas at the pump was higher than anyone had ever seen before, and we're there now.

And I've got to tell you, in Texas, this time of year, we generally have our cheapest gas. So what's it going to be on May 1 when we start having to have all of those fancy blended gasolines for the compliance with the Clean Air Act, and the peak of the summer driving season is about to start? We're likely to see gasoline at \$4 a gallon back home.

And how does the House of Representatives handle this uncertainty and the resulting rise at the pump? By gambling. We bet our energy policy chips on future sources of energy that cannot fully support a country as large or as energy reliant as is the United States of America.

Last week, the House of Representatives voted to provide tax breaks to consumers who make green choices, and extends tax breaks to producers of renewable energy to create green jobs. Fair enough. But unfortunately, this scheme ignores the fact that green choices and renewable energy are currently more costly for consumers and are not yet ready for full market use.

In addition, the plan offsets these breaks by sending an \$18 billion bill to the energy industry that will ultimately pass that cost on to the consumer.

Now, I'm not all that good at math, and I'm certainly not a gambler, but for the life of me, no matter how you add and subtract, I cannot understand how we stand to benefit by handicapping the very resources that we rely upon to get to work, to create our jobs, to go to school, to go to the grocery store or even to the doctor's office. By doing so, the democratic majority here

in the House of Representatives is gambling American resources on a horse they know full well cannot possibly win the race.

Thanks to this legislation, the country has now lost \$18 billion that could have been spent by experts in the energy industry to expand renewable and alternative energy capabilities, the same energy capabilities that this scheme purports to promote.

I hope these new green jobs are close to home, because workers are going to have to pay for walking shoes in addition to work boots.

Mr. Speaker, why is the majority willing to gamble our economic and national security on the uncertainty of the energy sources of tomorrow in order to bow to the billion dollar environmental industry today?

Of course, Members of this House want to expand alternative and renewable energy resources. In fact, we must do so, as we just heard in the last hour. We must have clean, safe, reliable, affordable sources of energy to continue to compete in the 21st century. But these are not new technologies in which we are investing. Ethanol has been subsidized since the 1970s, in fact, probably earlier than that. We've had solar and wind power capabilities since the 1980s. Yet, somehow this majority believes that the reason that these technologies have not taken over is because of some sort of cabal by the energy market.

So rather than financially support the research into new technology, this body chose to strap higher costs on the backs of already cash-strapped Americans. What about the needs of the Nation's families today? What about the families struggling to pay for oil to heat their homes, gas to drive their cars?

Today we face a slowing economy, a credit crunch. We have a hard hit housing sector. So how does the majority respond to those who are struggling to pay for gasoline and heating oil? They say the energy equivalent of "let them eat cake." Let them pay for something that is inherently more expensive than the current market provides.

Mr. Speaker, if California wants to cut energy demand by pricing people out of the market, as we just heard in the last hour, that's fine for them. But please don't think that the rest of the American people are going to sit back and let that happen without a fight.

Our economy is suffering. Our energy needs are great. This is not the time to double down on short-term schemes that deals long-term problems. America relies on energy to fuel our economy and our lives. That means that America needs real change to spur the development of new technology in the fields of renewable and alternative energy.

Let's spur this development in the right way and invest in all forms of energy, and let's do so without prejudice, without handicapping or picking the winners and losers based upon the

cleanness or the carbon consciousness index, whatever that is.

Let me end by quoting the famous songster, Kenny Rogers, the Gambler, because it seems like an appropriate way to wrap up this discussion. "You got to know when to hold them, you got to know when to fold them; know when to walk away and know when to run."

Let's hope the other body walks away from this risky democratic scheme so we can keep Americans from having to pick up the marker for the House's irresponsible gambling habit.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WATT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. YARMUTH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WATT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, March 13.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, March 13.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KUHL of New York, for 5 minutes, March 13.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 10, 2008, at 12:30 p.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5643. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Vehicle Fleet Report on Alternative Fuel Vehicles for fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 13218; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5644. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's Vehicle Fleet Report on Alternative Fuel Vehicles for fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 13218; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5645. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the March 2008 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2291(b)(2); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5646. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting a copy of the Report of the Proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States, September 18, 2007, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 331; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5647. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report on the activities of the Community Relations Service (CRS) for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2000g-3; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5648. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report on the use of exemption from antitrust laws provided by Section 405 of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act, Pub. L. 109-417; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5649. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Little League Baseball, transmitting the Annual Report of Little League Baseball, Incorporated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1084(b); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5650. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting a copy of a draft bill to amend subsection (e)(1) of Section 2010 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, or SAFETEA-LU, to allow a State to use funds from a grant under Section 2010 to promote the use of motorcycle helmets; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1312. A bill to expedite adjudication of employer petitions for aliens of extraordinary artistic ability; with an amendment (Rept. 110-540). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. DICKS):

H.R. 5541. A bill to provide a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. BOREN, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BONNER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

H.R. 5542. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a temporary moratorium on enforcement of the

cap amount on payments for hospice care under the Medicare Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Ms. BERKLEY):

H.R. 5543. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to increase the retirement security of women and small business owners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself and Mr. STUPAK):

H.R. 5544. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a demonstration project for integrated health systems to expand access to primary and preventive care for the medically underserved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 5545. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify Medicare physician reimbursement policies to ensure a future physician workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. CANNON, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. WEINER, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 5546. A bill to amend the antitrust laws to ensure competitive market-based rates and terms for merchants' access to electronic payment systems; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 5547. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that the mission and functions of Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators include keeping energy costs as low as reasonably possible for consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5548. A bill to provide for the continued availability of automated stamp vending machines at facilities of the United States Postal Service serving underserved communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 5549. A bill to expand the dental workforce and improve dental access, prevention, and data reporting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently

determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 5550. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the maximum age to qualify for coverage as a "child" under the health benefits program for Federal employees; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 5551. A bill to amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to implement the increase provided under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2008, in the amount of funds made available for the compensation of attorneys representing indigent defendants in the District of Columbia courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. GIFFORDS (for herself, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HILL, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mr. TANCREDO):

H.R. 5552. A bill to require a report on the efforts of the United States Government to increase border security; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 5553. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain travel bags; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. FILER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 5554. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to veterans from the Department of Veterans Affairs for substance use disorders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 5555. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow volunteer firefighters a deduction for personal safety clothing; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 5556. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain individuals who have attained age 50 and who are unemployed to receive distributions from qualified retirement plans without incurring a 10 percent additional tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 5557. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a full deduction for meals and lodging in connection with medical care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

H.R. 5558. A bill to limit the discriminatory taxation of oil pipeline property; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PUTNAM:

H.R. 5559. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for qualified long-term care insurance premiums, use of such insurance under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and a credit for individuals with

long-term care needs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WELCH of Vermont (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. CAPPES, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DeLAURO, Mr. DREIER, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HINCHAY, Mr. HODES, Mr. HONDA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. NADLER, Mr. OLIVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SIREs, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WU, and Mr. FILER):

H.R. 5560. A bill to permit California and other States to effectively control greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYNN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. WOLF):

H. Con. Res. 311. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. FALOMAVAEGA, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. POE, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. HOLT, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FATTAH, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPACE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. CROWLEY):

H. Res. 1024. A resolution recognizing the 187th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H. Res. 1025. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1843) to extend the termination date for the exemption of returning workers from numerical limitations for temporary workers; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (for himself, Mr. TIAHRT, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. TANNER):

H. Res. 1026. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Congressional Club; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. KUHLE of New York, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. PITTS, Ms. FOX, Mrs. BACHMANN, and Mr. CANTOR):

H. Res. 1027. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to strike rule XXVIII, popularly known as the

"Gephardt rule", and to require recorded votes on measures that increase the statutory limit on the public debt; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. LEE (for herself, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. FILER):

H. Res. 1028. A resolution reasserting congressional prerogatives in foreign policy and reaffirming the importance of following constitutional processes when the United States Government enters into agreements regarding the use or maintenance of the United States Armed Forces or the use of the financial resources of the United States to assist a foreign government or people and clarifying the nature and scope of status of forces agreements; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GUTIERREZ (for himself, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. BACA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HINCHAY, Mr. WATT, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SIREs, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio):

H. Res. 1029. A resolution congratulating and recognizing Mr. Juan Antonio "Chi-Chi" Rodriguez for his continued success on and off of the golf course, for his generosity and devotion to charity, and for his exemplary dedication to the intellectual and moral growth of thousands of low-income and disadvantaged youth in our country; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

H. Res. 1030. A resolution recognizing the achievements of former Texas Tech University, Indiana University, and West Point men's basketball coach Bob Knight; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

240. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 267 memorializing the Congress of the United States to extend unemployment benefits as a key part of the federal economic stimulus package; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 248: Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. CUBIN, and Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H.R. 471: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 503: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 552: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. DENT, and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 579: Mr. SAXTON and Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 706: Mr. LEWIS of California.

H.R. 768: Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina and Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 864: Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 1000: Mr. PASTOR and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1032: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1043: Mr. LATOURETTE and Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1063: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1117: Ms. WOOLSEY and Mr. KAGEN.

H.R. 1188: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1228: Mr. DOOLITTLE and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 1282: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. PORTER, and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 1419: Mr. CHABOT and Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 1439: Mr. DONNELLY.
H.R. 1479: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 1537: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 1553: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.
H.R. 1554: Mrs. CUBIN.
H.R. 1576: Mrs. MUSGRAVE.
H.R. 1584: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. SKELTON, and Mr. BROWN of Georgia.
H.R. 1610: Mr. LATTI, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 1629: Ms. FOX and Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 1647: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 1691: Mr. COHEN and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1738: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1767: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, and Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 1783: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. OBERSTAR.
H.R. 1843: Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H.R. 1975: Mr. FALOMAVAEGA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. EMANUEL, and Mr. BACA.
H.R. 2016: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 2020: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 2054: Mr. MORAN of Kansas and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 2066: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 2091: Mr. EMANUEL and Mr. DINGELL.
H.R. 2320: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 2370: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 2371: Mr. MARKEY and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 2533: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2611: Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H.R. 2652: Mr. KUH of New York.
H.R. 2689: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H.R. 2702: Mr. SHAYS.
H.R. 2762: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. ISSA, Mr. HUNTER, and Mr. DENT.
H.R. 2794: Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 2802: Mr. COHEN and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 2818: Mr. MARKEY and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 2894: Mrs. BONO MACK, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. SIRE, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. KAGEN.
H.R. 2915: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 2922: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 2943: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 3029: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3098: Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 3212: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 3326: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3360: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 3363: Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 3418: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 3480: Mr. FARR and Mrs. TAUSCHER.
H.R. 3485: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 3494: Mr. HELLER and Mr. HULSHOF.
H.R. 3533: Mr. DONNELLY and Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 3660: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 3779: Mr. EHLERS.
H.R. 3817: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 3928: Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 3981: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 4061: Mr. BROWN of Georgia.
H.R. 4088: Mr. KELLER and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 4125: Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 4206: Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. REHBERG.
H.R. 4218: Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN.
H.R. 4279: Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 4516: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 4651: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 4838: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 4845: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 4879: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 4900: Mr. ROSS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. KELLER, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. KUH of New York, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.
H.R. 5036: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 5057: Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 5109: Mr. KELLER and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 5124: Mr. CAMPBELL of California.
H.R. 5161: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 5172: Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H.R. 5180: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. SHULER, Mr. HODES, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BOREN, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GORDON, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 5265: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
H.R. 5268: Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. KUH of New York, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 5269: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5395: Mr. SIRE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. LEE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. WATT, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. JORDAN.
H.R. 5401: Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H.R. 5443: Mr. TOWNS and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 5445: Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MCHUGH, and Mr. BONNER.
H.R. 5447: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 5448: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 5450: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. CANNON, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. AKIN, and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 5464: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 5465: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 5467: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. PAUL, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, and Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 5472: Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. GOODE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 5475: Mr. PORTER.
H.R. 5511: Mrs. MUSGRAVE and Mr. SALAZAR.
H.R. 5515: Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mr. HERGER.

H.R. 5519: Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H. Con. Res. 75: Mr. CAPUANO.
H. Con. Res. 137: Mr. BONNER.
H. Con. Res. 224: Ms. LEE.
H. Con. Res. 284: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. SALI, Mr. SHULER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. GOODE, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. TANCREDO.
H. Con. Res. 301: Mr. MCDERMOTT and Mr. POE.
H. Con. Res. 302: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. OBERSTAR, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H. Res. 49: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida and Mr. KNOLLENBERG.
H. Res. 105: Mr. AKIN.
H. Res. 259: Mr. CASTLE.
H. Res. 351: Mr. LUCAS and Mr. KELLER.
H. Res. 690: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut and Mr. POE.
H. Res. 888: Mr. LATTI and Mr. CAMPBELL of California.
H. Res. 892: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. GRAVES.
H. Res. 895: Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H. Res. 959: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. EVERETT, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.
H. Res. 962: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. MACK, and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H. Res. 991: Mr. REYNOLDS.
H. Res. 997: Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. ENGEL.
H. Res. 1006: Mrs. CAPITO.
H. Res. 1008: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 1016: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KELLER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. CANTOR, and Mr. WELDON of Florida.
H. Res. 1018: Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. TANNER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. KIND, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BERRY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. ROSS.
H. Res. 1021: Mr. MICHAUD, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. WATSON, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Ms. FALLIN, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. HARE.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

220. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Council of the City of Binghamton, New York, relative to a Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to open an impeachment inquiry into President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard Cheney in defense of the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.